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The TV-TS

Tapestry

the journal for persons interested in crossdressing & transsexualism

UPDATED DIRECTORY OF ORGANIZATIONS

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YESTERDAY, TODAY AND TOMORROW
Keynote speech by Dr. Virginia Prince

HE / SHE, WE and THEY
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ISSUE 50

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1.) The TV-TS Tapestry Journal (a.k.a. 'The Tapestry') will support any individual, organization, or commercial enterprise that provides a valid service to the CD/TS/AN Community, and is not unethical, illegal or dangerous.

2.) Although sexually oriented organizations and services do provide a service and will be supported, it is understood that the Tapestry is intended to be neutral and acceptable to all. Therefore, no sexually oriented ads, photos, or articles will be accepted for publication in the Tapestry.

3.) Single copies of the Tapestry will be provided free of charge to any non-profit organization or information distribution center. In exchange the Tapestry expects to receive any available newsletters, and permission to reprint any articles and information that is of interest and relevant to all. (The Tapestry will print only that information which will not endanger the security of the organization or its members, and will reflect favorably upon the organization.)

4.) The Tapestry will distribute information for non-profit organizations free of charge. Advertising will be accepted free of charge on a reciprocal basis.

5.) The Tapestry will accept advertising from all legitimate commercial enterprises. Also, advertising will be accepted and information distributed free of charge on a reciprocal basis.

6.) Individual copies of the TV/TS Tapestry are $10.00

7.) Subscription rates for the Tapestry: Libraries and Helping Professionals $20.00 ($30.00 1st class), Regular Subscription $40.00 ($50.00 1st Class Postage, Canada, Overseas surface), Overseas (air) $50.00 (U.S. Funds) ($10.00 of each subscription will be rebated to the non-profit TV/TS organization of the subscriber's choice.) (Regular subscribers are considered voting members of I.F.G.E.)

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EDITORIAL ESSAY

....VIRGINIA

by Merrissa Sherrill Lynn

Last March in Chicago the International Foundation for Gender Education (IFGE) held its first 'Coming Together - Working Together' Convention. We had over 140 participants representing 30 or more organizations and God knows how many guests representing local groups. Since this was our first community-wide convention, the Steering Committee chose to honor one person, the person we felt had made the greatest life-time contribution to our community... Dr. Virginia Prince.

At one of our luncheons Virginia delivered a speech she entitled, 'Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow'. She spoke of the early years, and the impact those years had on where we were today. She then spoke of where we should be going, and how to get there. It was an inspiring speech, one of the best I have ever heard. (That speech is featured in this issue of the Tapestry. You must read it... it's important!) The speech also highlighted why we chose to acknowledge Virginia as the person who has made the greatest contribution.

At the Awards Banquet I was invited to stand up and say a few words on Virginia's behalf, which I did. I stood up and said a few nice words, briefly tried to give the audience some idea of the impact Virginia had on my life personally, and the influence she had on the development of the Tiffany Club, the Tapestry, and IFGE. I then gave her an appreciative hug, shed a few tears, and sat down, leaving untold the story I had wanted to tell.

Now I would like to complete that story.

Virginia Prince & Merissa Lynn
Chicago, March, 1987

Most of you know I have been cross-dressing all my life. Some of you know that when I was 13 I was caught by my parents and beaten. I still carry marks on my back from that beating. However, the biggest scars were not on my back. They were in my soul. That beating taught me three powerful lessons: (1) It taught me bitterness towards my parents. (2) It taught me the fear of social reprisal. If my parents could hurt me for no reason, then so could anyone and everyone. (3) It also taught me resentment for having been born male. These three lessons made me an outcast, rather, I made myself an outcast rejecting my family and withdrawing from everyone. I built a protective shell around myself and retreated into the woods where I found 'masculinity' and 'femininity' co-existing in a harmonious whole, where there was no one to misjudge me, and no one to criticize or hurt me. Only in the wilderness could I find peace.

For the next 13 years I was angry and alone, but I was relatively safe. It was easy to reject people (before they rejected me) and keep anyone from getting to know me. No, I was not a very happy or productive

person, but I was relatively safe. Then one day while watching an early morning talk-show on television, the host introduced his guest, Dr. Virginia Prince, a 'femmiphile' - whatever that was. 'She' was a man in a dress, so naturally I was interested. I looked around to make sure no one else knew I was interested, and I listened. Here, on national television, was a middle-aged man wearing women's clothes, looking every inch like the local librarian. 'He' was talking about pride, of dignity, and of self-respect. He also mentioned that the desire to cross-dress did not make a person homosexual, which came as a real shock! I always thought that way, but nobody else did. These were things I had never heard before, and to hear it being said by someone else besides me was something I desperately needed to hear -- and it was being said in public, by someone who was not bizarre or far-out, someone with whom I could identify. Virginia was talking to me!

Before you come to the conclusion that Virginia had just saved my soul, she hadn't. Yes, I heard what she said, but I didn't listen... I couldn't. At that time I was completely dominated by my own sense of bitterness for my parents and an unjust society, by the hatred I had developed for other people who shoved their 'masculine' expectations down my throat, by the anger I felt for my own hypocrisy for trying to live up to those expectations, and the confusion I felt for my gender identity conflict and for not being able to identify with drag queens and homosexuals. (If I wanted to be female so badly, why wasn't I gay?) Perhaps the most dominating sensation was the envy I felt for women. They were who and what I wanted to be, but because of an unfortunate accident of birth I could never be. Sometimes just thinking about it made me sick to my stomach. If a pregnant woman crossed my path, or if I saw a child being kissed by her father, I would inevitably break into tears. I was jealous as hell!

Being dominated by bitterness, hatred, anger, confusion, envy, jealousy, and the knowledge that I would probably never be female, made me a real grade-A mess. Suicide was a very attractive alternative. With death such a close friend and the solution to my problems, I was not ready to hear with my heart what Virginia was telling me.

Thankfully, I never did get around to killing myself. There was always the remote possibility that God would zap me in my sleep and I'd wake up female. (I don't know of too many cases of that actually happening, but one could always dream.) Or, I could get the courage and the where-with-all to go for surgery. Or, I could listen to Virginia. Naah! I didn't want to do that. However, her words stayed with me, offered me hope (or at least an alternative) and kept me from surgery - or worse. Even though I had only watched her for a few moments, I can justifiably credit Virginia with keeping me sane, keeping me whole, and perhaps even saving my life.

Seven years later I met a wonderful lady, Sherry (from whom I got my name), and we fell in love. To the absolute amazement of us both, the root of our attraction for each other was the hatred I felt for my 'masculinity' facade, and the hatred she felt for her 'femininity' facade. Together, and with enthusiasm, we destroyed those facades forever. Through each other we were able to set each other free. (God bless that woman... I will love her until the day I die.) Finally, I was able to feel with my heart what Virginia was trying to tell me seven years before.

Sherry was ill, and three years after we met, she passed away. We both knew she was ill and her passing was not sad, for during that brief three years we experienced a love, a happiness, and a sense of spiritual peace that neither of us had any hope of experiencing, and that few people ever experience. After her death I had achieved a conviction that, 'I was who and what I was and that was OK!' Never again would I allow other people to tell me who and what I was supposed to be. For the first time in my life, or at least since I was 13, I felt peace.

Besides giving me back my self respect and peace of mind, Sherry taught me many things. One of the first things was that the primary reason I wanted to be a woman was that I hated being a man. Together we redefined what constituted being a 'man', and found it to be nothing more than a meaningless term. Be a woman, be a man, but most importantly be yourself! Be a happy, productive, and complete human being! Another thing she taught me was not to fear rejection. I was who and what I was, and that was OK! If other people had a problem with that, it was their problem not mine. The most important thing she taught me was how to feel love - something I had never experienced in my life, not for myself, not for anyone. She taught me how to project that love out into the world. Don't misunderstand. She was no saint, far from it. She was aggressive and dominant, and demanded absolute devotion. It was not through Sherry's innate goodness or benevolence that I learned to love and care for others, it was through the giving of that devotion. All my life I had searched for a reason for being. Sherry gave me that reason for being - love, giving, and hope.

I remembered back to the painful bad old days when I wasted so much of my life and energy trying to live up to other people's idea of what kind of a 'man' I was supposed to be. I was about to show the world what kind of a 'man' I <u>really</u> was - and do it with pride!

As Sherry gave me love and a reason for being, Virginia gave me inspiration and direction... a way to make a contribution. Sherry gave me life and Virginia gave me purpose, and like Virginia I decided to dedicate my life to helping other people like myself.

The first thing I had to do was understand the nature of the TV/TS phenomena, and then understand the need. I read everything I could put my hands on, and looked into every organization I could find. Most of the publications I read and the largest organizations I found were oriented towards a person's erotic interests - not his peace of mind, his wants not his needs. They were commercially and sexually oriented, aimed at the wallet via the groin. We were on fundamentally different wavelengths. All they cared about was money. They didn't give a <u>damn</u> about people, whereas, I did!

One of the things the 'cock 'n frock' trade taught me was there must be a huge market out there, and an even larger community to support that market. How large? How great the need?

Virginia knew. She had done a study on the size of our community and came up with a figure of 3-5% of the entire population. She was not talking of a few thousand people, she was talking millions, and millions more who were directly affected by them. With a community that huge, where were the support groups? Where were the therapists? Where were the publications? Why was it so difficult for me to find help? Who was doing anything about it? Virginia was.

She had formed an organization called the Foundation for Personality Expression (FPE - now called Tri-Ess) with chapters world-wide. The Beaumont Society in England and Europe, FPE of Northern Europe, Femme Travestie of Switzerland, and Seahorse of Australia were all formed by FPE members. She published a magazine called 'Transvestia' and founded a publishing company, 'Chevalier Publications', to publish non-erotic books and information. She developed kits for breast forms and pads to help people develop a realistic appearance. She appeared on television, and radio, did public speaking tours, and research projects. She authored several books and hundreds of articles. The more I learned about Virginia, the more inspired I became.

I decided to follow her lead, and in the hopes of being able to contribute I became active in a local support group called Cherrystone and also with the Outreach Institute.

After joining, the first thing I learned was that Outreach was founded by Ariadne Kane, a member of Cherrystone which was originally the Gamma Chapter of FPE. The next thing I learned was Cherrystone evolved because the leadership disagreed with Virginia. I met the leadership of two other groups, Hartford TVIC and Albany TVIC. What did the 'IC' stand for? ... 'Independent Chapter'! Independent of what? ... Independent of FPE! Why? Because the leadership of those groups disagreed with Virginia. Then I met Linda Ann Stevens, founder of the International Alliance for Male Feminism (IAMF), and quickly found out she was once a member of FPE, got into a tiff with Virginia, got excommunicated, and founded IAMF. A pattern was emerging: (1) Nearly every organization had in some way or other been influenced by Virginia, and (2) it seemed the way to accomplish something was to disagree with Virginia or get excommunicated from FPE. This phenomena deserved a little more study.

Cherrystone had a collection of 80 or 90 Transvestia magazines (published by Virginia) and I read them all. I read 'Understanding Crossdressing' written by Virginia, 'The Transvestite And His Wife' written by Virginia, 'How To Be A Woman Though Male' written by Virginia, pamphlets, articles, etc. all written by Virginia. My reaction was, "My God, she's prolific.... wrong, but prolific!"

(*** I shouldn't say 'wrong'. Being a philosopher by nature and education, I disagree with anyone and everyone on general principles. With Virginia I didn't disagree so much with what she was saying as with her apparent homophobic, anti-transsexual, and isolationistic attitude, and for ignoring the sexual motivation for cross-dressing. And there-in lies the reasons for the disagreements and excommunications.

Virginia was a woman of her times. Virginia was not and is not homophobic. However, if she was to make the greatest contribution to our community she had to direct her thoughts and energies towards the greatest need which at that time was towards the the 'heterosexual' male cross-dresser and his spouse. The disagreements came when the membership of the local chapters didn't fit the rigid requirements for membership. The excommunications came when individuals tried to change FPE. The problem was FPE filled an extremely important niche in our community [as does Tri-Ess today], and could not change without abandoning that niche. That forced others to change, and change was, is, and will continue to be healthy for our community as a whole.

The issue isn't agreeing or disagreeing. The issue is the healthy evolution of our community. Virtually every organization in existence today has in some way been influenced by Virginia. She was the catalyst, the energy behind from where we have come, we are today, and where we will be tomorrow. She was and continues to be an extremely important person to our past, present, and future.)

I then read everyone else's books, editorials, etc., and lo, I disagreed with most of them as well! Some of them criticized Virginia without offering anything better. Others were educational works that used Virginia as a reference. It seemed that when I wasn't reading something by Virginia, I was reading something about Virginia.

After a lot of reading, and studying, and thinking, and bandying ideas about, I finally came to the conclusion that what this community needed was a network of effective support groups servicing the entire spectrum of our community (not an isolated segment of it), and an umbrella organization that would provide a unifying factor without dominating anyone or any group, or dictating policy. Thus the Tiffany Club was born to serve the Northeast region, the Tapestry was born, and the organization that is now International Foundation for Gender Education was conceived.

(I formed the Tiffany Club to provide the core support group necessary so the Tapestry and then IFGE could evolve. Virginia formed a local support group, then developed a magazine, 'Transvestia', then FPE. In other words, I worked and worked to come to the same conclusion and procedure Virginia had come to 20 years earlier.)

Forming Tiffany, Tapestry, and IFGE was a terrific idea, and I was terrific at having terrific ideas (especially if they were somebody else's to start with). What I wasn't terrific at was making those terrific ideas work. In fact, I was really lousy at that. (Ask me the meaning of life and I will tell you - ask me to fix a faucet and forget it.) Then I heard Virginia was going to attend Fantasia Fair in Provincetown. I was absolutely thrilled! I wanted to meet her, not only because of the impact she had on my life personally, but because of the impact she had on the development of nearly every organization I knew. If there was anyone in the world who could teach me how to form an organization, she could.

The big moment came. It was late. The night was cool and misty. The air carried the salty smell of the ocean and the sounds of a sleepy harbor - boats creaking in the swells, waves lapping the shore, deep-throated foghorns in the distance. I was sitting in a dark and quiet corner of the bar in Ocean's Inn with Princess resting at my feet. Princess was the queen of the bar, a dog so ugly she was cute, a flat face, no hair, a tail that curled backwards, and loved by one and all. Suddenly Princess perked right up, yapping and shaking her pudgy body, and bounced across the floor to greet the person who had just entered. It was Virginia! I was nearly as excited as Princess, but I wasn't about to shake my pudgy body and hop across the floor. Instead, I calmly introduced myself and invited her to my table. We sat and I braced myself for the pearls of wisdom I was about to receive. She leaned forward, frowned, raised an eyebrow, and with amazing energy gave me a rapid-fire explanation of her solution for South Africa and about some biology project she was interested in at the time. She then got up and went to bed leaving me wide-eyed, open-mouthed, and without a single question asked or answered.

That first meeting fell somewhat short of my expectations. However, it did teach me what a conversation with Virginia was like... and, there would be other times.

There were other times - many of them. Even though I never learned how to form an organization from her, I did learn how to defend myself. I simply leaned forward, frowned, raised an eyebrow, and with amazing energy, gave a rapid-fire expose' of my own point of view, then got up and walked away. Since our first meeting I have lost count of how many eyeball-to-eyeball, fingertip-to-fingertip discus-

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sions Virginia and I have had, and neither one of us has ever changed the other's mind about anything, but I do know I have enjoyed every conversation.

Twenty years ago Virginia started out as an unreal person on a television set offering me real words of comfort and hope. For many years her words stayed with me and helped me through a very difficult time in my life.

When I started working on behalf of our community Virginia became larger than life, a legend, a reference, and a topic of debate. She was the guiding light for the development of the Tiffany Club, the Tapestry, and the IFGE.

As influential as she was, she was still a shadow, a voice on a television set, and words on a page. She was not yet a real person. She did not become a real person to me until we met in Provincetown. After that she became very special. She became real, and became my friend; someone I have grown to appreciate, to respect, and to love.

In this essay I talked of both Sherry and Virginia because they both had a profound influence on my becoming who and what I am today. Sherry of course was, and perhaps always will be, the most important person in my life. She gave me life. But, Virginia is an excellent candidate for second. She gave me purpose. In the beginning of this essay I mentioned that my little speech in Chicago left the story incomplete. It was incomplete because I was unable to tell the audience just how important Virginia was, and how much she meant to me. Not even Virginia knew. Now she knows. Now you know. Now the story is complete!

- END -

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June 11 - 14, 1987: 'Be All You Want To Be' Weekend, Cleveland Sponsor: Chi Chapter, Crossroads, Paradise, Trans-Pitt

June 26 - 28: Shangri-La West Sponsor: Shangri-La

September 18 - 20, 1987: Joyce Dewhurst's Poconos Outing Sponsor: B.L.I.

October 2 - 4, 1987: Tiffany Wives Support Group Outing, P-town Sponsor: Tiffany WSG

October 16 - 25, 1987: 13th annual Fantasia Fair, P-town Sponsor: Outreach Institute

February 25 - March 1, 1988: 2nd annual I.F.G.E. 'Coming Together - Working Together' convention, Chicago sponsor: I.F.G.E.

April 14 - 18, 1988: Shangri-La, Biloxi Sponsor: Shangri-La

NEW ENGLAND

** INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION **
FOR GENDER EDUCATION
IFGE, P.O. Box 19, Wayland, MA 01778 617-358-2305

COMING TOGETHER, WORKING TOGETHER: 2nd Annual international convention serving the TV/TS Community. Chicago, February 25 - March 1, 1988

** TIFFANY CLUB **
(TV, TS, SO) Tiffany Club, Box 19, Wayland MA 01778 (617) 358-2305

Open Rap Group: Each Tuesday, 8 - 11 p.m.

Open Meetings: Casual get-togethers 7pm each Saturday

Educational Programs: Topics of specific interests (legal, medical, political, etc). irregularly scheduled

Personal Improvement Classes: (make-up, comportment, wardrobe, etc.) irregularly scheduled

Sundays: Evenings out on the town.

Parties: 3rd Saturday each month

Spring Outing, P-town: May 26 - June 1, 1987

** TIFFANY WIVES SUPPORT GROUP **
(Wives/Fiancee') WSG, P.O. Box 19, Wayland, MA 01778 (617) 358-2305

Meetings: 1st Saturday each month

Couples' P-town Outing: October 2 - 4, 1987

** OUTREACH INSTITUTE **
Outreach Institute, Box 386 Kenmore Sq, Boston, MA 02215

Fantasia Fair: 9-day educational convention in Provincetown, Oct. 16 - 25, 1987

** AMERICAN FEDERATION **
OF TRANSSEXUALS
(TS) Karen Aldrich, P.O. Box 9238, North Dartmouth, MA 02747

Meetings: Schedule unavailable

** XX (TWENTY) CLUB **
(TS) XX Club, Box 6070 Sta. 'A', Hartford, CT 06106 (203)522-2646

Meetings: 2pm the 2nd and 4th Saturday of each month.

** CONN. GENDER ALLIANCE **
(TV, TS, SO) Box 744, Branford, CT 06405

Meetings: 1st and 3rd Saturday each month at Commercial Street West Cafe, 458 Wethersfield Ave, Hartford, CT.

** THE CONNECTICUT VIEW **
(TV, TS, SO) Denise Mason, P.O. Box 2281, Devon, CT 06460

Meetings: Inquire

NEW YORK

** NYC GENDER ALLIANCE **
(TV, TS, SO) Muriel Olive, Penthouse B, 157 W 57th St., NYC, NY 10019 (212) 582-6823

Meetings: 3rd Saturday of each month, 435 5th Ave, 3rd floor (between 38th & 39th Sts)

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BETTER LIVING INSTITUTE
(NYC, open, parties, special programs) B.L.I., c/o Joyce Dewhurst, 37-50 76 St, Jackson Heights, NY 11372 (212) 335-3048

Spring Pocono Fantasy Festival: May 15 - 17, 1987

Fall Pocono Fantasy Festival: September 18 - 20, 1987

** LEE'S MARDI GRAS **
(Parties) Lee's Mardi Gras Boutique, 400 West 14th St, NY, NY 10036 (212) 947-7773

Parties: Inquire

** EULENSPIEGEL SOCIETY **
(NYC, For those with S/M & B/D fantasies) The Eulenspiegel Society, Box 2783 Grand Central Sta., NYC, NY 10163 (212) 477-6588

Functions: Frequent events specifically oriented for the TV. Inquire for times & location.

** AS A WOMAN **
(TV, TS, SO) c/o B. Fortune, Box 369, Brooklyn, NY 11235 718-852-4290

Meetings: First Saturday of each month, at 208 West 13th St., NY

** L.I. FEMME EXPRESSION **
(TV, SO) LIFE, P.O. Box 121, Ozone Park, NY 11416

Meetings: 2nd Tuesday & 4th Saturday each month

** THE GATHERING **
(TS) (serving the greater NYC area) Jana L. Thompson, 560-C Main St, Hackensack, NJ 07601 (201) 342-6548

Meeting: 1st Saturday each month

** LAMBDA IOTA, TRI-ESS **
(TV, SO) Lambda Iota, P.O. Box 3676, NY, NY 10185

Meetings: Inquire

** LONG ISLAND SOCIAL CLUB **
(TV, TS, SO) Kay & Ursula Kwarta, 50 Sunny Rd, St. James, NY 11780 (516) 584-7736

Meetings: 1st Saturday each month

** CHI DELTA MU, TRI-ESS **
(TV, SO) Chi Delta Mu, P.O. Box 327, Massapequa Park, NY 11762 (201) 663-0772
Meetings: 2nd Saturday of each month, locations vary.

** TRANSGENDERISTS **
INDEPENDENCE CLUB (TGIC)
(TV, TS, SO) TGIC, P.O. Box 13604, Albany, NY 12212-3604 (518) 436-4513
Meetings: 7 p.m. the 2nd Saturday each month at 226 Jefferson St., Albany, NY

** THE BUTTERFLY GROUP **
(TV, TS, SO) Butterfly, PO Box 7161, Endicott, NY 13760, Shannon Michaels, Pres. 607-798-8033
Open Meetings: 2nd Friday and 4th Saturday each month

** 'EON' **
(TV, TS, SO) Eon, PO Box 6293, Camillus, NY 13031
Meetings: Inquire for time and location
Wives Support Group: In-Inquire for time & location

** TRANSVESTITE ASSOCIATION **
(TV, TS, SO) TVA, P.O. Box 26533, Rochester, NY 14626 (716) 723-1698
Meetings: 3rd Tuesday each month

** F.A.C.T. - NIAGARA **
(TS) Call: Joan, 544-4653
Meetings: 4th Friday each month in the parish hall of All Saints Anglicsn Church at the intersection of King and Queen streets.

SIGMA OMEGA PHI TAU, TRI-ESS
(TV, SO) Sigma Omega Phi Tau, c/o Tri-Ess, P.O. Box 194, Tulsre, CA 93275
Meetings: Inquire

NEW JERSEY, PENNSYLVANIA

** PHI CHAPTER **
(TV, TS, SO) c/o D. Beeman, P.O. Box 2512, West Chester, PA 19380
Meetings: 4th Saturday of each month (Sep-Jun)
Wives & Lovers: Irregularly scheduled events for members and their spouses.

** NU CHAPTER **
(TV, TS, SO) Nu Chapter, 14 Maple Ave, Pine Brook, NJ 17058
Meetings: 1st Saturday of each month (Sep-Jun)

** NORTHERN NJ SOCIAL GROUP **
(Open, non-sexual) L. Frank, Box 9192, Morristown, NJ 07960 (201) 663-0772
Meetings: last Saturday of each month

** RENAISSANCE **
(TV, TS, SO) Renaissance, Box 1263, King of Prussia, PA 19406
Meetings: inquire

** PHILADELPHIA **
TRANSSEXUAL SUPPORT GROUP
(TS) Philadelphia TSG, P.O. Box 15836, Philadelphia, PA 19103
Meetings: 1st & 3rd Tuesday each month at Dignity House, 252 South 12th St, Philadelphia

** TRANSPITT **
(TV, TS, SO) Transpitt, PO Box 59406, Pittsburgh, PA 15211
Meetings: the 3rd Saturday of each odd-numbered month.

MID-ATLANTIC

** DELTA CHI CHAPTER **
(TV, TS, SO) B.A. Lind, P.O. Box 11254, Lincolnia Sta., Alexandria VA 22312
Meetings: 1st Saturday of each month (Sep-Jun)

** BUTTERFLY COUPLES **
OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA
(MARRIED COUPLES) Butterfly Couples of NOVA, P.O. Box 3234, Manassas, VA 22110
Meetings: Schedule unavailable

** NORFOLK TS GROUP **
(TS) Donna Johnston, Box 1923, Norfolk, VA 23501
Meetings: Schedule unavailable

** MY CHOICE **
(Baltimore, Transsexual support) Kathy Stevens, 1417 McHenry St, Baltimore, MD 21223 (301) 792-9639
Meetings: 2nd Friday each month

** ACADEMY AWARDS **
(Baltimore - Wash. DC, Theatrical Drag) Academy Awards of Wash. DC, 5104 South 11th St, Arlington, VA 22202
Functions: Inquire for events, times, and locations

** BALT.-DC GENDER ALLIANCE **
(Baltimore - Wash. DC, open non-sexual) R. Lewis, P.O. Box 50724, Washington, DC 20004
Meetings: 3rd Saturday of each month (Sep-Jun). Subject to change.

** JANUS/DC **
(TS SUPPORT) c/o H. Martin Malin PhD, 4835 Del Ray Ave, Bethesda, MD 20814
Meetings: 4th Thursday each month

SOUTHEAST

** SATURDAY'S LADIES **
(TV, TS, SO) Saturday's Ladies, P.O. Box 81683, Atlanta, GA 30366
Meetings: 3rd Saturday each month

** MONTGOMERY FOUNDATION, INC. **
(TS) The Montgomery Foundation Inc., PO Box 33311, Decatur, GA 30033
Meetings: Twice a month. Inquire for times and locations

** SERENITY **
(TV, TS, SO) Serenity, Box 307, Hollywood, FL 33022
Meetings: 2nd and 4th Fridays of each month at the Metropolitan Community Church, 330 S.W. 27th St., Ft. Lauderdale, FL

** BUTTERNUT BELLES (AND BOYS) **
(TV, TS, SO) Butternut Belles, Box 3585, Knoxville, TN 37917 call Wendy 524-1629, 7-9 p.m.
Meetings: Schedule unavailable

MIDWEST

** PARADISE CLUB **
(TV, TS, SO) Paradise Club, Box 29564, Parma, OH 44129
Meetings: 3rd Saturday of each even numbered month.

** ALPHA OMEGA, TRI-ESS **
(TV, SO) Alpha Omega, PO Box 954, Elyria, OH 44036
Meetings: 2nd Saturday each month

** CROSS-PORT **
(TV, TS, SO) Cross-Port, 2020 "B" Beechmont Ave, P.O. Box 150, Cincinnati, OH 45230 ATTN: HEATHER
Meetings: 3rd Thursday each month

** INDIANA **
CROSSDRESSERS SOCIETY
(TV, TS, SO) Iota Chi Sigma, P.o. Box 20710, Indianspolis, IN 46220
Meetings: 1st Thursday esch month in basement of 'Club 21' at 9pm

** CROSSROADS CHAPTER **
(TV, TS, SO) Crossroads Chapter, Box 196, Garden City, MI 48135
Meetings: Usually 1st Saturday each month, but double-check for time and location

** NATIONAL GENDER DYSPHORIA **
ORGANIZATION & SUPPORT GROUP
(Support for Gender Dysphoric persons regardless of color) N.G.D.O., c/o Justina Williams, Box 02732, Detroit, MI 48202 313-842-5258
Meetings: G.D. Support Group, Crossdressers Support Group, Parent Support Group, Bible Reading Group. Time and locations unavailable

** CHICAGO GENDER SOCIETY **
(TV, TS, SO) C.G.S., P.O. Box 578005, Chicago IL 60657 (312) 231-8923 David Maxwell, Pres.
Meetings: 2nd Tuesday each month

** CHI CHAPTER, TRI-ESS **
(TV, SO) Chi Chapter, P.O. Box 2055, Des Plaines, IL 60018 (312) 264-9514 Naomi Owen, President
Meetings: 3rd Saturday of each month. Wives and girlfriends support group, ethnic night, summer white party, picnic, awards banquet, christmas party, and co-sponsor "Be All You Want To Be' Weekend.

** WISCONSIN NETWORK **
(Open to gay and bi- men and women as well as TVs and TSs, non-sexual) Dee Dailey, P.O. Box 632, Waukesha, WI 53187 (414) 542-5735
Meetings: 4th Wednesday of each month

** CITY OF LAKES **
CROSSDRESSERS' CLUB
(TV, TS, SO) CLCC, P.O. Box 16265, Minneapolis, MN 55416 (612)822-9726
Heather Cowell, Pres.
Meetings: Inquire

** ST. LOUIS GATEWAY FEMMES **
(TV, TS, SO) P.O. Box 1262, St. Louis, MO 63188
Meetings: Inquire

** CROSSDRESSERS & FRIENDS **
(TV, TS, SO) C.A.F., PO Box 1154, Belton, MO 64012
Meetings: Inquire

** RIVER CITY **
(TV, TS, SO) River City, PO Box 1305, Bellevue, NB 68005
Meetings: Inquire

INTER-MOUNTAIN

** THE GENDER IDENTITY CENTER **
OF COLORADO, INC.
(Association, affiliation, information and education serving the cross-dresser and gender conflicted and their significant others) GIC, 37115 W. 32nd Ave, P.O. Box 11563, Denver, CO 80211, 303-458-5378
Monday: 7:00 PM Open Rap
Alternate Tuesdays: 7:30 PM TAKOTS (TeenAge Kits of T's) Open Rap
1st & 3rd Wednesday: 7:30 PM Spouses Rap Group
Last Wednesday: 5:30 PM Staff Meeting
Thursday: 10:00 AM Open Rap
Thursday: 7:00 PM Women in Transition
Saturday: 10:00 AM Open Rap
Saturday: 12:00 Noon F-M Open Rap
TV Socials: By invitation
Parents' Group: By special arrangement
Workshops: Every other month throughout the year
Seminars: Helping Professionals & Significant Others, offered on a Saturday in February, and again in September

SOUTHWEST

** BOULTON & PARK SOCIETY **
(TV, TS, SO) Boulton & Park Society, c/o Ms Denise Griffiths, Box 169652, San Antonio, TX 78280-3252 (512) 691-8915 (8am - 11pm only)
Meetings: 3rd Saturday each month

** TRI DELTA, TRI-ESS **
(TV, SO) Tri Delta, P.O. Box 533, Richmond, TX, 77469
Meetings: 3rd Saturday each month

** DELTA OMEGA, TRI-ESS **
(TV, SO) Dallas Chapter Tri-Ess, P.O. Box 461041, Garland, TX 75046
Meetings: Inquire

** GENDER DYSPHORIA CENTER **
(TS SUPPORT Galveston) Alice (713) 763-6227
Meetings: 1st Saturday each month except July, August & September

** A ROSE **
(TV, TS, SO) A Rose, PO Box 4351, Scottsdale, AZ 85261
Meetings: Inquire

** ALPHA ZETA, TRI-ESS **
(TV, SO) Alpha Zeta, PO Box 8425, Mesa, AZ 85204
Meetings: 3rd Saturday each month

** TRANSITION CLUB **
(TV, TS, SO) c/o TC Onekea, Box 42454, Las Vegas, NV 89116 731-5814 (ask for TC)
Meetings: Inquire for time & location

CALIFORNIA

** NEUTRAL CORNER **
(TV, TS, SO) Neutral Corner, PO Box 12581, San Diego, CA 92112
Meetings: Inquire first

** ALPHA CHAPTER, TRI-ESS **
(TV, SO) c/o Virginia Prince, PO Box 36091, Los Angeles, CA 90036
Meetings: Inquire

** OMEGA CHAPTER, TRI-ESS **
(TV, SO) Omega, PO Box 9091, Anaheim, CA 92802
Meetings: Inquire

** CHIC (CROSSDRESSER **
HETEROSEXUAL INTERSOCIAL CLUB)
(TV, SO) CHIC, Box 562, Duarte, CA 91010 (213)456-6511
Meetings: 2nd Saturday each month

** SHANGRI-LA CLUB **
(National membership, open non-sexual) Nancy Watson, Box 18202, Irvine, CA 92713
Scyros Chapter: 1st Saturday of each month

Shangri-La '88: April 13-18, 1988
Shangri-La West: June 26 - 28, 1987

** CHI CHI TAU, TRI-ESS **
(TV, SO Tulare) c/o Tri-Ess, P.O. Box 194, Tulare, CA 93275
Meetings: Inquire

** PACIFIC CENTER **
(Community Services for sexual minorities) P.O. Box 908, Berkeley, CA 94701 (408) 841-6224
Meetings: Rap sessions the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month
Special Topic or Speaker: Last Friday of each month

** RAINBOW GENDER ASSOCIATION **
TV, TS, SO) Rainbow Gender Association, P.O. Box 700730, San Jose, CA 95170
Meetings: 1st and 3rd Friday of each month at New Community of Faith Church, 6350 Rainbow Drive, San Jose

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** SANTA ROSA GENDER ALLIANCE **
(Open, non-sexual) 707-526-2500
Meetings: 1st Friday and 3rd Wednesday of each month at 2525 Cleveland Ave.

** SACRAMENTO GENDER ALLIANCE **
(Open, non-sexual) Bonnie Goodwin, Box 38918, Sacramento, CA 95838
Meetings: 2nd Friday each month

** EDUCATIONAL TV CHANNEL **
(ETVC)
(San Francisco, Open, Non-sexual) Box 6486, San Francisco, CA 94101
Socials: Last Thursday of each month
Significant Others Support Group: 1st Tuesday each month
Other Events: Socials, poker parties, dinners, etc. irregularly scheduled. Inquire.

** GENDER IDENTITY ANONYMOUS **
(Transgender support) 415-467- 5285 or 415-431-1221 (days)
Meetings: Science of Mind Room at 3255 Balboa St., San Francisco. Every Thursday

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FEMALE TO MALE TRANSSEXUAL GROUP
(Support for F-M TSs) The Billy DeFrank Community Center, 86 Keyes Ts., San Jose, CA (408) 293-4525
Meetings: Every Wednesday 7-9 pm

** SOCIETY OF JANUS **
- SACRAMENTO GROUP
(For persons interested in B&D) Society of Janus - Sacramento Group, PO Box 13852, Sacramento, CA 95853-3852
Meetings: Inquire

NORTHWEST HAWAII

** NORTHWEST GENDER ALLIANCE **
(Open, non-sexual) NWGA, Box 13173, Portland, OR 97213
Meetings: Inquire

** SALMACIS **
SHE-MALE INFORMATION NETWORK
(West Coast Drag Events)
(Drag) Leslie-Shawn, c/o Salmacis, Dept. G, Box 1604, Eugene, OR 97440-1604
Events:
Salmacis Society Workshop: 5-day workshop in Eugene, OR. Theme: costuming, deportment, posture, make-up & personality projection. Inquire for details.

** EMERALD CITY **
(Open, non-sexual) Emerald City, Box 31318, Seattle, WA 98103
Meetings: Inquire

** SEATTLE COUNSELING SERVICE **
(TV/TS support group, non-sexual) Seattle Counseling Service, 1505 Broadway, Seattle, WA 98122
Meetings: Every Friday 8-10 p.m.

SEATTLE TV/TS SUPPORT GROUP
(Open) Seattle Counseling Service, 1505 Broadway, Seattle, WA 98122 206-329-8737
Meeting: Every Friday, 8 - 10 p.m.

** SEXUAL IDENTITY CENTER **
(Hawaii) Sexual Identity Center, PO Box 3224, Honolulu, HI 96801-3224
Meetings: Discussion group, 7:30, every Tuesday

CANADA

** TRANSVESTITES AU MONTREAL **
(TAM)
(Open, non-sexual) CP 1164 Succ H, Montreal, Que Can H3G-2N1 514-352-7481
Meetings: 2nd Saturday 2:00pm, and 4th Thursday 7:30pm.

** QUEBEC **
TRANSSEXUAL AID, INC.
(Transsexual support, French speaking) Viviane Belanger, 84 Boul. Des Allies, Quebec, QUE Canada G1L 1Y2
Meetings: Schedule unavailable

** FACT **
(FEDERATION OF AMERICAN AND CANADIAN TRANSSEXUALS)
FACT, Box 291, Sta. 'A', Hamilton Ont Can L8N-3C8 416-539-7884
Meetings: 2nd Friday of each month, visitors welcome

** TRANSITION SUPPORT **
(Transsexual Support) Transition Support, c/o 2 Second Ave, Apt 509, Toronto, ON CAN M4C 2C3 (416) 532-5769
Meetings: Schedule unavailable

** METAMORPHOSIS **
MEDICAL RESEARCH FOUNDATION
(Support for the F-M transsexual) Box 5963, Sta. 'A', Toronto Ont Can M5W-1P4
Meetings: Inquire for time & location

GREAT BRITAIN

** BEAUMONT SOCIETY **
(Closed, heterosexual) Beaumont Society, Box 3084, London England WC1N-3XX
London: First Wednesday each month
Brighton: First Saturday each month
Woking: Inquire for time and location
Woodford Green: Inquire for time and location
King's Langley: Third Saturday each month
Braintree: Third Wednesday each month
Harlow: Practically any time - by arrangement
Cambridge: Second Saturday each month
Luton: Every Saturday
Eye: Every Tuesday

BEAUMONT ANNUAL RE-UNION WEEKEND: October 30 - November 1, 1987. Beaumont members only.

** SHAFT **
(SELF HELP ASSOCIATION FOR TRANSSEXUALS)
(Transsexual support, non-sexual) SHAFT, 46 Liddell Way, South Ascot, Berkshire, England SL5-9UX
Meetings: Inquire for time & location

** FRIEND MERSEYSIDE **
(Closed, heterosexual) 14 Colquitt St., Liverpool, L1-4DI England (051)708-0234
Meetings: Fridays 8pm onwards

** THE TV/TS SOCIAL GROUP **
(Open, non-sexual) 274 Upper St., Islington, London N.1. England 01-359-4868 (Fri, Sat, Sun 8-10pm)
Meetings: Every Saturday and Sunday from 7:30 to 11:00pm, at the above address

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** SCOTTISH TV/TS GROUP **
(Open, non-sexual) Scottish TV/TS Group, c/o SHRG 58a Broughton St., Edinburgh, EH1 35A Scotland (031) 556-4049
Meetings: Last Saturday each month

EUROPE

** TRANS-CCL **
(France, support for sexual minorities) Rev. Joseph Douce, Centre du Christ Liberateur, Minorites Sexuelles, TRANS-CCL, 3 bis, rue Clairaut, 75017 Paris - France (1) 226-7048 (also, help line Mon. 8-10pm [1] 627-4936) (Rev. Douce speaks English)
Meetings: 8pm, 2nd Tuesday of each month
Dinner: 5th Saturday of the month (4 times a year)

** ASSOCIATION BEAUMONT ** CONTINENTALE
(France, closed membership, heterosexual) Gaby Linsig, 2 Rue des Charpentiers, 68270 Wittenheim, France
Meetings: Schedule not available

** F.P.E. **
(Denmark, closed membership, heterosexual) M.A. Postboks 192, DK2600, Glostrup, Denmark (do not put F.P.E. on envelope)
Meetings: Schedule not available

** FEMME TRAVESTIE **
(Switzerland, inquire for membership qualifications) Femme Travestie, 8023 Zurich, Postfach 6788, Switzerland
Meetings: Schedule not available, but very active

FOREIGN

** ELIZABETH CLUB **
(Japan, open) Ant Trading Co., Sakata Bldg, 1-12 Iwamoto-Cho Kanda, Chiuoda-Ku, Tokyo 101, Japan
Meetings: No schedule available. Private facilities in Tokyo, Osaka and Nagoya

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** SEAHORSE CLUB **

Seahorse Victoria (Melbourne) GPO Box 2337V, Melbourne, Victoria, 3001 Australia
Social Evenings: 2nd Saturday of each month

The Seahorse Club of Australia (New South Wales - Sydney) The Secretary, P.O. Box 146, Ulladulla, NSW 2539
Meetings: Inquire

** HEDESTHIA **
(New Zealand, affiliated with England's Beaumont Society) Ms J.F. Gall (National Secretary), Hedesthia Central, P.O. Box 78-026, Grey Lynn, Auckland 2 New Zealand
Meetings: Schedule unavailable

** THE PHOENIX SOCIETY **
(TV, TS, SO) The Phoenix Society, PO Box 375, Pardow 7500, Cape Town, Republic of South Africa
Meetings: Inquire

TAPESTRY MAILBAG

Dear Editor

Subscribing to Tapestry is the best thing I ever did. I anxiously await every issue and read it cover to cover, as does my wife. We find it both entertaining and informative, unlike much of the soft-porn available in stores. I've made some great contacts and very nice friends through your magazine.

Wendy R. (CA-0805)

INTRODUCING: CHICAGO GENDER SOCIETY
Dear Sister Groups and Friends,

On February 10, 1987, a group, formerly members of the NGA Windy City Chapter, separated from that organization to form a new group called the 'Chicago Gender Society'. A three-member transition team has been formed to lead the group until our April meeting, when an election of officers will take place.

The Chicago Gender Society is now 50+ members strong, and we are confident that through this separation from NGA, and through reorganization and refocusing of the group, we will continue to grow and be most successful.

A permanent address is being established. Until then, write: David Maxwell, c/o IFGE, Box 19, Wayland, MA 01778 IFGE will forward your mail.

- Roberta O'Meary-Stanton
- Rachel Richards
- David Maxwell

Dear Editor,

You should be very proud of your efforts with the Tapestry. The last issue of Tapestry is what made me see the light to make the decision to openly express my feelings to to accept myself in a positive way, for what I am.

You have succeeded in projecting a very dignified, sensitive, and beautiful image and nature of the transgender phenomena. I am grateful to Tapestry, and to you personally as its author, for helping bring into my life a new meaning and understanding, and a renewed hope for happiness.

I realize that there is so much more to the gender identification issue, than a desire to wear makeup and pretty clothes. That is the femme part. I am deeply into the feminine mystique in all of its aspects, and I can no longer deny to myself especially, the very strong female side of my personality.

Of course there are those time when I would like to emerge out of my cocoon and see myself instantly transformed into a beautiful, warm and sensitive 'total woman'. I realize that is a fantasy that is shared by many. There is however enough evidence to support further exploration towards gender identification, and a lifestyle that could be the most acceptable, rewarding, and fulfilling to me. To that end, I know that I need the help and support of those far more experienced than I in dealing with this dilemma. I truly believe that I have taken some very important steps by joining Tiffany, and also seeking professional counseling.

I see your program as a wonderful opportunity to help people find themselves and live happier, more meaningful lives, whatever their in-

clinations may be. I know that I can never forget the all too many years of confusion, anguish, and even despair of living in the closet. It turns out that I have spent almost my entire life suppressing and almost destroying part of me which was sensitive, loving, and caring. I am now just becoming aware of the many ways that gender identification can manifest itself. I am not even sure where I fit in, but I know that I must explore all the possibilities in a caring supportive environment. You have provided me with that environment.

Thank you!

- Rita B. (RI-1193)

Dear Editors

I should have subscribed to your magazine long ago! It's quality, direction, and meaningfulness set it apart from any other attempts at same. I've been aware of your organization for years and have been reluctant to affiliate myself with anyone. Having avidly read Tapestry for the past three issues, you have proven both your quality and intent for us.

- Carole-Anne P. (-1169)

Dear Editor

Please accept my thanks for sharing your calm, thoughtful insights and information, and for providing an 'unscheduled' introduction to a 'TV toddler' new to the Tapestry. With my new membership and the back issues I hadn't seen previously I will now be able to keep abreast of all the encouraging developments of our para-culture which you and your associates have done so much to clarify and strengthen.

I hope to become active in supporting the Tapestry-led movement. As a TV, I am currently more of a fantasist than an active dresser. (Your articles on definitions have been very apt). My femininity is central to my personality, but since it was grounded in an extremely girlish upbringing during the first thirteen years of childhood, that was then (literally) cut off along with my beloved hip-length curls in the seventh grade, there has developed a tangle of trauma, denial, neurotic nostalgia, guilt and even 'schizoid' attitudes and deep intra-family recriminations which at age 44 I'm still struggling to sort out. After reviewing Tapestry, I am moved and inspired by the tales of personal growth and self-acceptance to somehow become more courageous and firm in my own quest. But my hang-ups and real-world constraints still seem burdensome and highly threatening.

If I can extricate myself from those family ties and professional obligations which are negative here in Pennsylvania (some are just fine), and carry out this planned relocation, then the changed circumstances should permit a much more honest and better-balanced existence.

As indicated, my femmeself, Tina (short for Christina, my childhood girlself) has been a 'buried child', who is now re-emerging after years of deep freeze. As she begins to find her way among new friends such as the Tapestry tribe, I know now that 'our' formerly separate personalities will be interested in becoming one 'self', integrated yet with different aspects to be expressed in different settings. The multi-colored Tapestry can make a richer, more 'seasoned' and fascinating blend of those countless threads which once were separated or even assembled in patches that had seemed to clash. With creativity, skill, patience, and the blessings of 'a fresh eye', all of one's personal life fragments can be re-integrated into a unique new WHOLENESS. This is Tapestry's model for me.

In pursuit of this re-discovery, I would love to hear from any Tapestry readers who may have dressed or lived for a time as girls during childhood, or who were 'petticoated' for pleasure or punishment and came to love it. Let's share reminiscences and ideas on how these experiences have

affected our lives. Did anyone else out there have long curls or braids, and were you accepted in a girl's role? Did your cousins, aunts or sisters play a role in helping you to 'enjoy being a girl?' Whether it was fun or frightening, let's correspond c/o Tapestry, for mutual interests and entertainment.

Enough for now. It's a delight to be among wise and friendly companions.

In the spirit of Tapestry,

- Tina Browning (PA-1064)

Dear Editor

Great news! The Seattle City Council has passed the amendment that redefines the term 'sexual orientation' used in the Fair Employment and Open Housing Ordinances. This term identifies one of the minorities that may not be discriminated against - and now it specifically names transvestites and transsexuals. We are now officially included in the law! This is to grant our communities official recognition. May it be followed by many others.

Thanks again for a superior publication. The articles in Tapestry are pure quality. The Emerald City strongly supports your work and actively promotes subscriptions to this fine magazine at every opportunity. You've seen our newsletter and know that Seattle, too is an active beacon for our transvestite and transsexual communities.

God bless you and all your helpers!

- Janice Van Cleve, Editor, The Emerald City, P.O. Box 31318, Seattle, WA, 98155

Dear Editor,

The news about Susan Anton's new men's wardrobe undoubtedly gave many of our sisters who saw the story a twinge of envy, particularly those of us who, like Susan, find it difficult to buy off-the-rack clothes.

Wistfully, they may wonder, why can't I do the same thing at the shop of a women's fashion designer or even at 'big girl' stores and be accepted, even admired, when I wear my new wardrobe, as Susan Will?

I felt much the same way for many years until I read your thoughts in Tapestry and others in letters that followed. Now I support your feelings that women of good taste who wear styles once exclusively masculine -- from ties to wing-tip oxfords to crew cuts -- aren't cross-dressing. To wear what she pleases is a woman's prerogative. In my view, an appearance-conscious, style-minded woman dresses up a male outfit rather than the other way around.

And I, a life-long CD, am GLAD men do not have the same prerogative!

Perhaps you may want to ask through the Tapestry how a dedicated CD among your readers would feel to wake up one morning into a society that totally accepts female attire on men. Thus, there would be no such thing as cross-dressing. We, at worst, would be just another guy in a dress and lipstick or, at best, a sexless being.

Ask them to give some thought to the total loss of the joy and excitement of dressing and passing as a woman; of losing the revelation of seeing themselves in their mirrors in heels and makeup and padding.

Girls will be boys, it's said, and boys will be girls. But virtually all of the girls in male styles aren't being boys. They're just being fashionable. But the boys ARE being girls when they dress.... and isn't that what we want?

Keep up the marvelous work on Tapestry. Wish I could be near enough to help you.

- Carol Susan Stearns (FL-0551)

Dear Editor

I want to thank you for what I feel is the very best magazine that is available on cross-dressing. I have seen a lot of 'trash' printed on the subject and yours is the only one that

I am not embarrassed to share with my wife. Most of the other magazines I have seen have left me feeling like there was something perversely wrong with what I am and do.

The articles in the issue I bought (#48) were so relevant to my life it seemed as if you wrote the entire magazine for me. I spend a few days reading it over and over, underlining things and just feeling good about myself.

One of the articles I really needed was 'On Religion and Cross-dressing'. I too am an Evangelical Christian. I had already decided to learn to live with my cross-dressing before I read the article. Also, my wife knows about it and has allowed me to cross-dress when she is not home, which is important because it helps to keep the guilt caused by not telling her from happening. After reading the article I felt the reassurance that I had made the correct choice for my life.

Another article I found interesting was 'The Fashion Argument'. It seems unfair to me that my wife can throw on a T-shirt and jeans and no makeup and go anywhere she wants, but I can't put on a nice skirt, blouse and heels and go anywhere I want. However, the article is right in that she wouldn't be cross-dressing in order to 'pass', and I would.

Another article I enjoyed was 'Dressing For Sensual Appeal'. I enjoy short skirts, heels, and hose, but let's face it, to go out like that will get me in more trouble than it's worth. I think mini skirts and 4" heels are sexy, but on me? Probably not.

Lastly, I want to publicly thank one of your long-time advertisers. I went to Florence's Fashions the other day, and it was a nice experience. I really appreciated Florence's help and friendship towards me. I have bought many things at many different stores and this one was the best one I have found. I hope to do much more of my buying there.

Thank you for taking the time and effort to put out a top rate magazine and for allowing the readers to respond to what you publish. Keep up the good work.

- Rae B. (MA)

Dear Editor

Just a short note to congratulate you upon your latest publishing triumph. The Tapestry just gets better and better. I am sure considerable time and effort is put into it; and I am also sure the expenditure is extremely valuable in view of the several projects you manage.

Thanks again. I have found more help, enlightenment and support through your efforts than any other resource. Keep up the good work. It is important to us all!

- Eileen C. (OH-0486)

Dear Editor

I received Issue #49 last week. What a terrific surprise. The cover puts the Tapestry in orbit, in a class completely by itself. When I slid the journal out of its protective envelope the cover was in color and beautiful. I knew that if the inside was as good, that you and the staff had published a tremendous issue. I was not disappointed.

The cover was a nice blend of color, but the model says it all - a real person, a member of our community, and attractive as well. I do hope this will be a regular policy with Tapestry, as we do have some very attractive ladies out there.

- Abby Marie G. (NH-0731)

FASHION ARGUMENT:

Dear Editor

I cannot say that I agree totally with your comments on the Fashion Argument. It seems to me that

women dressing in men's clothes are often perceived differently than men, even when there may be no difference. I can recall an amateur play I went to where one of the usherettes wore a man's suit and tie. Everyone there assumed that she was wearing women's man-tailored clothing until she told someone that it was a man's suit. By contrast, if I go anywhere, except a Highland Games, in my kilt, which is about as femme as Marine battledress, I am likely to be razzed because I'm wearing "women's clothes" (i.e. any form of skirt).

I suspect that my own TVism has its roots in a simple preference for the styles, colors and ornaments that women wear, and had skirts, earrings, etc. been available in some form as menswear when I was growing up, then I might never have gotten into cross-dressing at all. Instead we seem to living in a world where certain forms of dress are defined as exclusively female and others as available to both sexes. I cannot think of anything that is still defined exclusively as male attire. In many professions, whenever a unisex uniform is adopted, it is always by way of the male uniform being worn by females.

It seems to me that this is part of the sexism of our society. To be male or masculine is considered more prestigious than to be a woman. Thus, a woman who imitates male behaviors, and acts 'butch' is seen as being strong, independent and virtuous, or at least powerful. However, a man who imitates female behavior, even very positive female behavior such as nurturing or self-sacrifice, is seen as having humiliated himself, as being of low status and as being weak and rediculous.

However, I agree that the whole "If she can do it, so should I" argument has been overdone and is a minor one at best.

- Wendy Smith (TN)

(*** Let us not miss the primary point of the 'Fashion Argument'. The argument has nothing to do with men who wish to wear 'woman-styled' men's clothing, or with men who want to wear women's clothing and still pass themselves off as men. No one questions the gender-related injustices inflicted upon both men and women. The primary issue is men who want to cross-dress to create a female persona using the argument that "if it's all right for women to wear men's clothing then it should be all right for men to wear women's clothing" as an argument for them to be able to cross-dress. For you to wear women's clothing and pass yourself off as 'Ralph' is one thing. To wear women's clothing and pass yourself off as 'Wendy' is something else altogether. - ED)

BUTTERNUT BELLES of TENNESSEE

Dear Editor

Thank you for putting Butternut Belles in the Tapestry and on your mailing list. The last two issues have been very much appreciated, and I found them very well written and thought provoking.

Let me tell you a bit more about our group. Firstly, it is the Butternut Belles and Boys (not Guys). I have no idea how that misprint got started, but knowing how well I type, I probably flubbed it in some letter or other, and that naturally was the one everybody chose to use. We are an open non-sexual support group. We welcome straight, gay, TV, TS, M-F, F-M, and wives. We currently have about a dozen members scattered over four states. Due to this diffusion, we are currently functioning mostly as a rap group. Meetings are usually the 3rd Saturday night of the month at my house in Knoxville.

Although we are mostly hetero, we have some contacts with the local gay group 'Knoxville's Ten Percent'. A few of our members are also active in the local Libertarian Roundtable.

At the moment everything is very informal, but I am hoping to put together a more formal structure over the next year.

Anyone wishing information concerning Butternut Belles can contact me: Wendy Smith, P.O. Box 3585, Knoxville, TN 37917

Dear Editor

The past issue (#49) was one of the best. Tapestry to me is one of the best magazines on the market; since it expresses the essence of cross-dressing, and it does not narrow its scope.

Your editorial on self-validation was right on the mark, and I consider I.F.G.E.'s conference in Chicago to be very important. It is time to express that we are good people with certain rights. I for one have gotten tired over the years of living in the darkness. I want to live my life in the sunlight of freedom. This is one reason why I have gone out more and more over the last four to five years. If I am 'read' and if someone wants to cause a problem, then I no longer worry about it. The reason being it is his or her problem, not my problem. We have to be willing to fight for our sunlight as a community, or we will always live in the darkness of guilt.

- Karen K. (CA-0536)

FASHION ARGUMENT:

Dear Editor

I have obtained a couple of Tapestries from mail order and am very taken with it. Let me say that 'The Fashion Argument' by Merissa Sherrill Lynn in issue #48 should be the introduction or first chapter in all of the books and articles about cross-dressing. I have been wondering why I was uncomfortable watching Donavon wearing and showing the latest fashion of men's skirts on television, but the above article explained it very well.

Jim W. (CA)

Dear Editor

Thank you for being. Due to a bad experience when I was young I had always been ashamed of being a TV. I tried to suppress my desires, unsuccessfully, for the last 18 years. After a lot of soul-searching I decided to try to enjoy it, but I still felt the shame and couldn't completely accept myself. I bought an issue of 'Tapestry' and after I read it I didn't feel as much of the shame.

Last night I went to my first meeting of Emerald City. It was the most positive experience of my life and I am now a member. After the meeting some of us went out to a local restaurant. I was walking down the street with one of the other girls. Two girls with purple hair, studded leather clothes and gaudy jewelry walked by. I don't know what was stranger, the look they gave us, or the look I gave them. After they were gone I said something about not feeling weird any more. The girl I was with said there was no reason to feel weird. Now I don't. Looking back, last night was the happiest of my life.

Thank you again for helping me overcome a lifetime of shame. To be honest, I felt very self-conscious and nervous when I bought your magazine. Now I am proud to buy it. It deserves to be sold in better places than the sleazy adult bookstore I bought it in. Maybe some day when society's attitude changes...

- Tanya L. (WA)

Dear Editor

Last November an article entitled 'Altered States' appeared in the Toronto Globe and Mail. I was dismayed to read such a biased article on transsexualism.

Sexuality and gender, at the best of times, are areas of discussion in which no definite pronouncements can be made, especially in this day and age. If women with large body frames

and men who cross their legs at their thighs disturb the author Mr. Brown's sensibilities as to what defines female and male behavior, why then does he attempt to write about such a complex subject as gender dysphoria? Obviously, he does not have the sensitivity to do so. Such reporting frightens me because it implies an enlightened outlook when, in fact, it is condescending and judgmental.

Focus should be on the rights of individuals within our community. This is the basis of our constitution - to respect the human being, regardless of the lifestyle he or she chooses within the framework of our society.

Anyone who experiences gender conflict does so through years of agony, partly because of a hostile and ignorant public which does not take their situation seriously. Individuals who undergo a sex-reassignment operation simply want to live and let live. Unfamiliarity with their situation and irrational, unfounded fear, based on misinformation and insecurity, only promote an attitude of prejudice and victimization.

An irresponsible, sensationalist press does not further the cause of understanding between people.

-- Amala Sulima (Canada)

Dear Editor

I've got some good news and some bad news. The good news is that 'American Photographer', a respected and prestigious magazine with a circulation of at least 250,000, will publish an article on my nine-year love affair with the paraculture. The article will be five pages, and include six black & white pictures. The bad news is they gave it the stupid title, 'Gender Pretenders'. (My husband suggested 'Exploring the Gender Frontier'.) Since the article consists of my quotations, arranged by one of their editors, I know that the piece itself will be positive. I hope this unfortunate title will not undermine the article's potential for moving the public. Perhaps it would be a good idea for readers to write in comments on both the article and the title.

The article will be in the June '87 issue, which will be out in the middle of May. If you can't find it on the newsstand, contact me.

Mariette Pathy Allen
241 East 17th St
New York, NY 10003

Dear Editor

I try to contact every form of the public media every time there is anything written, drawn, or said about the TV/TS phenomenon. If the media is accurate I enjoy congratulating them and supporting them. If they are inaccurate or offensive I feel I've done my part by calling that to their attention, and citing their error.

Recently the Rocky Mountain News published a political cartoon which was extremely offensive. (The cartoon used transsexualism to attack the US courts' improved treatment of women.) The cartoon showed gross ignorance and flaming indifference clearly using the suffering of one body of people for the titillation and amusement of the rest. I came down on them as hard as I could.

To my way of thinking, this is a part of what the theme of the Convention in Chicago was all about. The cross-dresser and the transsexual cannot sit around and wait for others to fight their battles for them. They must begin to rise up and say to the powers out there, to borrow a line from a recent movie, "I'm mad as hell and I won't put up with it anymore!"

If others around the country begin to make it too hot in the kitchen, editors, writers, etc., will have to start cleaning up their act. Then we will have a different press and we will begin to change the culture.

We can do it!

I'd like to see a regular space in Tapestry where people can expose the

media and call for a mass reaction to it. If we do that, we must do some training in the kind of letters that are appropriate to write. A name-calling or attacking letter will only damage our cause. A hysterical letter will only identify the population as the hysterics the public believes them to be. A well thought out letter that cites their errors and calls for a change of attitude and information published will be our most effective form.

-- Tomye Kelley, M.A.

* * * * *

(*** One of the proposed programs for the '88 IFGE Convention in Chicago is 'AFFIRMATIVE ACTION'. - ED)

(Edited from 'The Emerald City News', published by Emerald City, P.O. Box 31318, Seattle WA 98103)

Stress On The Significant Other

Dear Editor

May I, as a 'significant other', answer your request about the stress that occurs when one's partner is a transvestite? While there are many reasons why women find it difficult to accept this situation, the greatest problem is lack of information about the subject. A search through the library yields little to help a woman understand this phenomenon. Therefore, unless we find a support group, we have only one man's point of view. For this reason, I strongly suggest that every woman who is involved with a transvestite make a point of attending some outings where she can meet other transvestites and their partners. This will show her that she is not alone, and provide support.

This is not to suggest that meeting others in the same situation will solve all of the problems. Of course, there is some stress involved when one's partner indulges in a 'hobby' which is misunderstood by the majority of the population, but is it really all that bad? Think of the problems that exist in the marriages of people you know. Women who are married to misers, gamblers, alcoholics, drug addicts and wife beaters have far more serious problems than we do. I have one friend who would be delighted to know that the 'other woman' in her husband's life, is himself. The difference of course, is that these are socially accepted vices and these wives can turn to others for support. You don't have to be married to an alcoholic to understand the problems. Being involved with a transvestite, on the other hand, cannot be understood by outsiders. How can we explain why our men have this compulsion? How can we expect others to understand when we are confused ourselves?

Only those who are involved with such a man could possibly realize that this is a form of relaxation which harms no one, and gives a great deal of pleasure. If our men are considerate enough to appreciate that it is difficult for us to learn to accept them as women, if they are sympathetic to our fear of discovery, if they can assure us that we are not going to permanently lose the men we love, we might then come to enjoy having another woman around the house.

-- Carol

ATTN: WIVES / SIGNIFICANT OTHERS

My name is Lyn. My husband is a cross-dresser, and a member of ETVC in San Francisco. I am a member of Significant Others Support (S.O.S.), affiliated with ETVC.

I am very interested in starting a newsletter ('SOS Network News') especially for wives and significant others. The newsletter would be published here on the West Coast, but we would be working cooperatively with and in support of I.F.G.E. This newsletter would be designed to educate, encourage, and effectively address the special problems and needs of women in similar

situations. We would welcome contributors who want problems considered, stories told, suggestions made, etc. -- anything that could be used as a positive and beneficial exchange of news and information between significant others from around the world.

The SOS Network News would be contributed to and supported by two reputable PhD gender therapists here in California. We would publish the newsletter six times a year. Your problems and responses to others' problems printed in previous newsletters would help many women relate to their own situations. Hopefully we will all use the information generated in the newsletter to improve the quality of our lives, our relationships, and bring us peace of mind. (For security, no identities would be published.)

We want to know what your interests or suggestions might be, so we can assess the need and desire to contribute in order to get the project going on a continual basis.

Please write to:
SOS Network News
c/o ETVC
Box 6486
San Francisco, CA 94101

LETTERS CONCERNING I.F.G.E.'S 'COMING TOGETHER—WORKING TOGETHER' CONVENTION 1987

Director,

Throughout the course of the convention, starting out with the first seminar I attended, I noted an excitement that was almost nerve racking; everyone had a very good reason for being present. It was like looking out over a room of very thirsty people that have just been told that the oasis is on the other side of the very next hill. Representatives went home with a strong desire to carry on the spirit of what was accomplished.

I was one of the unlucky people who had to wait for a room, but that was my only complaint. All the other services in the hotel were wonderful. The bars were great, the rooms were well furnished and comfortable, and the restaurant was simply divine, with good service and very good food.

There were a few shortcomings, but the things that were not 'just right' were far overshadowed by the good feelings, friendships and valuable information that was the highlight for everyone who attended. It is one thing to be a leader, and the convention pointed out to me that those present cared enough to act like leaders. In many cases just the conversation between two people led to successful programs planning, confidence in the development of the groups nation-wide, and a vast amount of knowledge exchange. I walked away from more than a few such conversations overloaded with new ideas and sparked with enthusiasm.

The hopes and dreams for many of us who care about what we are, and are proud of it, and care enough to try and help others the best way we can, became reality at the convention. To see the gelling of groups and the desire to help each other and coordinate our efforts indicated that the convention was very necessary, and that it was a beginning of a new movement. It was more than just a success, it was a moment of history in our culture that I am proud to say that I experienced.

- Angela Sheedy (EON, W. NY)

Director,

I am still ecstatic about the convention. For a 'first' convention, it was super! High points included the luncheons and speakers, the banquet and awards ceremonies, the presentation at the mixer-reception, and our reception and treatment by the hotel staff. The attendees are to be commended, as they almost all acted like ladies and presented a super public image for the convention. Granted, there were some short points, but overall, the organization, the conduct, the whole convention absolutely exceeded my fondest expectations. The perception of the attendees indicated that we had an excellent convention.

- Bette Johnson (D/FW, TX)

Director,

While participating at the first IFGE Convention, I had a two-hour break and had the opportunity to see the movie "Wizard of Oz" on television. The first thought that came to mind was that Chicago became our "Land of Oz" with all the beauty of your ladies.

I want to congratulate you on a job well done and to thank you for allowing me to participate and considering me to be part of you 'staff'. It was a privilege to work with so many fine ladies. Another honor was in helping to coordinate the Wives and Significant Others programs. It was a memorable time for me, and I want to thank all the wives and significant others who participated and helped and most of all for sharing. I know it was an emotional experience for me and left me on quite a 'high'. To the wives and other significant others who could not attend, we missed all of you and hope that next year you will be able to join us and witness first hand what I am trying to say. We are already working on improving our programs for next year, and would appreciate input from all.

- Marilyn Frank (Chi Delta Mu, NJ)
(Wives/Significant Others)

Director,

Just a note to let you know how much I enjoyed this first meeting of IFGE. Although I was unable to attend the entire session, I was most inspired at the show of unity among the cross-dressers present. I feel that you second annual convention will be an even bigger success. I am most grateful to the staff and management of the Ramada-O'Hare for their support and cooperation with this event. It was my first time that I was able to move about the hotel en femme.

- Elizabeth Anne (Chi Chapter, IL)

Director,

I felt the convention in all important aspects was superb. The thoroughness and thoughtfulness of planning, quality of the sessions and session leaders, friendliness and helpfulness of all was outstanding. As a relative newcomer, I am constantly impressed at what nice people the members of what I can now call our community are.

I felt we projected an excellent image. The hotel staff loved us and I heard and felt many highly favorable evaluations from them. Response from the general public seemed very good - I had various interactions of various sorts, and observed others, and all seemed positive, some highly so, and none that gave me any feeling of embarrassment.

Robin E. (Tiffany, MA)

Director,

This is to thank you and all the other girls at I.F.G.E. for the wonderful time I had at the 'Coming Together' convention. Since this was the first time I had ever been to a large meeting, being in the same place as a hundred other femme people was a definite rush. It did wonders for my energy level.

More importantly, I got the chance to exchange information on forming groups and how it is done with a lot of other people, and it was a real education. I learned that several things I had blamed on myself were in fact common to every group, which bolstered my self-confidence, and came back with a head buzzing with new ideas to try with my group, the Butternut Belles.

I think my group is going to make some great strides as a result of this convention.

- Wendy Smith (Butternut Belles, TN)

Director,

I.F.G.E.'s first convention was the success we all had hoped for from the beginning. Of course with the effort by you and your staff, how could the results have been otherwise? I want you to express my gratitude to all the Sisters back in you area for their kindness in making the Chicago experience very meaningful for me. We have all made a first step in a truly national effort for our culture. It's a pleasure to say I was there with you at the beginning.

- Ellen S. (NWGA, OR)

'COMING TOGETHER—WORKING TOGETHER' 87
A MILESTONE IN THE TRANSGENDER COMMUNITY
I.F.G.E. Convention Report
by Rupert Raj, Dir. MMRF

"Coming Together - Working Together' was the theme of the first annual convention of the International Foundation for Gender Education (IFGE) which took place march 4-9 in the windy city of Chicago. Premiere "meeting of the minds and hearts" of the "movers and shakers" of the transgender community across Canada and the United States Marks a milestone in our history - a unique, cultural, communal experience that spells the threshold of a new era.

And what does this new era, this "new dawn" mean for us, both as individuals and as a community?...

It means that just around the corner awaits our chance to tell and show our loved ones that we are "natural" human beings, decent folk, good people who care about our family and our friends, our country and our community - and fellow sisters and brothers in our own special community - and that we are taking steps to enrich these relationships and to pay more attention to the individual needs of others.

It means that looming on the new horizon is our initiative to begin e tablishing supportive networks of 'providers' vis-a-vis the trans-gender world. (This task has been taken up, in part, by Dr. Roger Peo and Niela Miller, who volunteered, at the convention, to set up a data bank of therapists, peer-counselors and support groups for people seeking aid regarding cross-dressing, gender expression or sex-reassignment).

It means that at the end of the rainbow our future destiny glitters as a larger class of smaller sub-groups, to really become a strong and unified front - culturally and politically - in the face of any opposition. Once we

make up with our own internal enemy, we can then begin to fight the foe on the outside. But, let's do battle with love and tolerance, with truth and knowledge as our artillery. Let's wage war on hate and ignorance - on the 'sin' and not the 'sinner'. Victory is in sight!

* * * *

Success was truly ours that memorable March weekend in Chicago as 140+ people representing 30+ support groups, counseling services and businesses from across the continent came together, as a community, to share experiences, to trade information and ideas, to pool resources, to learn and to teach, to meet minds and to hold hands, to care for one another as fellow 'sisters' and 'brothers'. We have many to congratulate and thank, for without their cooperative efforts, creative energy, and their zealous participation, this special event would not have come to pass. So, from the heart and with deep gratitude, congratulations and thank you....

... IFGE Steering Committee (Which consisted of representatives from over 30 organizations ... and the Convention Staff (Co-Directors Merissa Sherrill Lynn and Elaine Willey, Directors' Advisors Naomi Owen and Sharon Hart, Coordinator Betty Johnson, Finance Yvonne Cook, Audio-Visual Cheryl Powers, Photographers Renee Chevalier and Mariette Pathy Allen, Daily Bulletin - Jamie McClosky and Linda McKim, Pre-Convention Programs Coordinators Cheryl Costa and Cheryl McBride, Convention Programs Coordinators Ellen Sommers and Dorothy Finch, and Tier III Coordinator Shiela Kirk.

... The workshop moderators: Dr. Roger Peo, Niela Miller, Siobhan Donovan, Angela Sheedy, Rupert Raj, Kim Hellman, Marilyn Frank, Naomi Owen, Eve Burchert, Gloria Peters, Marcia Michaels, Linda Buten, Heather Peerson, Joan Sheldon, Ginny Knuth, Renee Kessell, and many others whose names I have forgotten.

... The Chicago Gender Society

Rupert Raj (Dir. MMRF)
with Carol Beecroft (Dir. Tri-Ess)

for their reception, drag show, and behind the scenes assistance: Marcia Michaels, David Maxwell, Rosie and Sue E., Gloria and Debbie Wright, Roberta O., Rachael R., Karen B., Coleen C., and many others whose names I have forgotten. ... The National Gender Alliance for their reception ... and a special thank-you to Dorothy Finch for her classic bawdy rendition of 'Mrs. Shufflewick'.

... Our Keynote Speakers Dr. Roger Peo, and our Guest of Honor Dr. Virginia Prince.

And, of course, especial thanks again to the person whose idea it was in the first place, and without whose drive none of this would have become a reality: Merissa Sherrill Lynn, IFGE Executive Director.

* * * *

"It was the four best-spent days of my life! - the first real chance for me to be truly me." These were the words of a pre-op male-to-

female transsexual with whom I talked at the the convention. I also met a male transvestite, a newly-joined member of our group (the Metamorphosis Foundation), whose wife had found out about his cross-dressing habit just prior to the convention, and who was fortunate enough to receive the support she desperately needed from the other wives there. That weekend several people must have come out of the closet who could probably not have done so without the empathy and friendship of the other delegates.

Never before had I done so much networking and workshopping in one place at one time (and "work" was the operative word, albeit a 'labor of love'). I discovered resource people I had not known before. I met Patricia West (the newly elected Chairwoman of the IFGE Board) (and whose red glassed I dig), Jamie McCloskey who put out the daily bulletin, and Kim Hellman (who co-moderated the three TS workshops/-forums with me and whose organizational and delivery skills were impressive). (Thanks Kim for working with me; I'm really looking forward to you and ETVC hostessing the '89 Convention in San Francisco.) I met Gloria Peters of the Rainbow Gender Alliance and moderator of the Networking workshop, and Kathy Butte (who simply could not contain her enthusiasm), and especially Cheryl Powers (Audio-Visual Coordinator) who was the first delegate I met at the hotel, and with whom I shared a special camaraderie.

I met two special resource people I had previously been in contact with, and whom I was pining to meet: Niela Miller (President of People Systems Potential, counselor superbe whose humanistic approach I share), and Carol Beecroft (Director of Tri Ess National, and whom I laud for her caring dedication and longtime work with cross-dressers.

My convention was really made when I finally got to dialogue in depth with people I had been reading about in the Tapestry issue after issue. I met Siobhan Donovan (whose sense of joie de vivre right away made me feel at home while she filled me in on the over-all picture before the convention got underway, and who later 'flirted' with David and I in the bar). (I forgave Siobhan for not allowing me more time in the organizational workshop, but next year...) I met Shiela Kirk (whose gracious charm and rich speaking voice I so admire), and Bette Johnson (whose smiling brown eyes first mistook me for a doctor, and upon learning my TS status raised me 300 points in her estimation - but you know, doctors are okay too). I met Eve Burchert (whose 'old world' accent I adored, and who moved me when she let tears flow following Virginia's luncheon address), and Renee Chevalier (who took time out of her picture-taking to invite me to Albany NY to meet her TGIC members). I met Dorothy Finch (a fellow Canadian whose British-hallmark humor helped to heal my spirits), and Mariette Pathy Allen (who readily replied "yes" when I asked if she was interested in photographing female TVs - a rare breed indeed!).

Some other special moments for me were the "soul baring-and-sharing" that took place among the small number of TS (or so-inclined) women. One delegate felt such intense feeling of gender conflict that she broke down and cried during one of our TS forums. I put my arms around her in a gesture of caring support, within the embrace of

the circle.

The convention was further highlighted by the renewing of old ties with people I had met before or have been in a working relationship with. These people include Virginia Prince (who certainly deserved the tribute she was paid for her 30 years of dedicated service to our community, and whose luncheon address I found to contain great insight). They also include Elaine Willey, Yvonne Cook, and Ellen Sommers (whose sunny warmth was like a comforting blanket after a "knock-out" workshop session). And, Holly Cross, Naomi Owen, and Heather Peerson (who kept telling me to project my voice when speaking into a microphone - I'm working on it). And, Linda and Marilyn Frank (whose Significant Others workshop went very well), Sharon Hart, Gloria Wright, and especially David Maxwell (truly a gentleman, and recently elected President of the Chicago Gender Society). Dave and I made a couple of rare birds, given that F-M guys don't usually come out to TS group meetings - let alone to a mixed TV-TS convention. And, especially, Merissa Sherrill Lynn (a 'one-in-a-million' gal, whom I think of as almost a sister, and who gives the best hugs of all!).

Thank you all for the memories. I am more than ever looking forward to next year's convention, and to seeing you all once more. Until we <u>come together</u> again, Sisters and Brothers, let's continue to work together!

In solidarity, your Brother,
Rupert Raj. Director, MMRF

FORUM

(Edited from the GIC Newsletter, published by the Gender Identity Center of Colorado Inc., 3715 W. 32nd Ave, P.O. Box 11563, Denver CO 80211, 303-458-5378)

THE POWER TO END PREJUDICE

Anon

The social psychologist of race relations, Thomas Pettigrew, has been quoted as saying, "...I could never look at the segregation around me as something normal, which, I think most white Southerners did." I believe not only the white but the black as well accepted segregation and prejudice as 'normal'. As long as the blacks bought into the normalcy of the situation, it continued.

Nothing happened to begin to break down that wall of prejudice until the victims themselves came together and unified and said with one voice, "Prejudice is not 'normal' and we will no longer submit to it."

Tom Pettigrew, in the late '50s and early '60s challenged some of the theories of breaking down prejudice that were popular at the time. He said what brings about change had to originate in the institutions of a society, not in the minds of individuals. Pettigrew stated that, "...institutionalized prejudices demand institutional change." He was speaking of schools, workplaces, and neighborhoods. His concepts certainly extend as well to the media, both printed and filmed, the medical and religious words.

Our culture teaches "truths" or "givens". These are concepts that are taught as always being true, as basic to existence as the sun coming up in the east and setting in the west. For these "truths" to continue to exist and be accepted as "truths" it is necessary

that the people never examine them or challenge them. Growth and learning come only through challenging the "truths" of any culture.

To know that cultural truths do change, or can be changed, one need only study a bit of history. As recently as the turn of the century devoutly religious farm people routinely defined an unexplained death of their infant to God's will or God's punishment for some assumed sin of the parents. This was a given, a truth. With medical advances we know now of illnesses that are germ or virus transmitted that can be treated and death avoided. Instantly, the nature of God became less punitive.

There seems to be a correlation between the black movement and the struggles of the gender conflicted today. The gender conflicted and the cross-dresser have accepted the "truths" that their behavior is shameful, that their behaviors and feelings are fair game for ridicule and cheap laughs on television shows, that this is the last body of people without human rights, that although the clergy can not stand up in the pulpit and sanction segregation as a "given" from God anymore, he can stand in the pulpit or sit in his office and tell the family of cross-dressers that such behavior is evil. Now remember, your rage at such events is the same rage that the blacks felt while they continued to allow themselves to be victims. Your rage alone changes nothing.

If you are to see "truths" challenged and the concept that the behavior of the majority is the only reality questioned, you will need to band together, speak with one voice. You will need to put together a well organized and polished attack on the institutions that hold you to be the victims. A sloppy or haphazard approach will fail. We need a strong, dedicated committee to organize the attack. We need someone to compose letters, another to see that the letters are duplicated, stuffed into the envelopes, and put into the mail. We need members of the committee to comb newspapers and magazines for behaviors and attitudes that must be challenged. These same people need to make the offense known to this community across the nation requesting their support as well and giving them guidelines along which to take action.

You will begin to experience you own power and the institutions will be held accountable and change can begin. Programs such as L.A. Law would receive a battery of mail from all over this country. That mail would be short, succinct, informative letters filled with usable information, not tear-jerking complaints and feelings. Do you think 250 letters (individually composed, never form letters) from all over this nation to both producers of L.A. Law and their sponsors would have an impact? Do you think gender conflict and sex-reassignment surgery and those who have had to go through it might be treated with more accuracy and compassion in future airings? You bet they would!

If a minister tells a family inaccuracies, he can be bombarded with communications from all over the country. He can be taught. He can learn. Physician, psychiatrist, surgeon, whomever. Here lies your power. Do you chose to use it?

WHAT CAN YOU DO?

Monitor TV, monitor your local newspapers, monitor the magazines that you read. Call TV stations, get the names and addresses of producers, write the producers, copy the local stations.

NOTIFY GIC, SEND US YOUR OBSERVATIONS AND WE WILL JOIN YOU IN CONFRONTING THE OFFENDER!

- END -

(*** One of the objectives of I.F.G.E.'s annual 'Coming Together' convention is to bring interested persons together to develop an effective inter-organizational program that would achieve the objectives mentioned in this editorial - namely have a united front to end prejudice and promote education. If you are interested in being part of such a program, contact: Director, IFGE Convention '88, P.O. Box 19, Wayland MA 01778, 617-358-2305)

(The Article 'Tootsies Who Suffer' by Dr. Robert A. Butler, first appeared in 'Sexology Today', and was reprinted in Tapestry issue #47 and other publications. 'Revisiting' was edited from the 'CHIC Diary', published by CHIC, P.O. Box 562, Duarte, CA 91010.)

REVISITING 'TOOTSIES WHO SUFFER'

by Susan Howard

As I read the closing portion of 'Tootsies Who Suffer' in the DIARY, the part listing behaviors believed to indicate biological pre-dispositioning toward transvestism, I underwent a shift in my own position. Reading down that list brought back a lot of memories -- none of them joyful.

I remember the girl sitting next to me in the seventh grade saying to me, "Your hands are so smooth, they're just like a girl's,".... and the years of abuse to beat those hands into a 'masculine' look. I remember my first friend in school telling me, "Don't carry your books like that; that's the girl's way." Not wanting to be guilty of that sin, I rapidly adopted the slung-at-the-hip boy's style, even though it seemed less efficient. I remember noting and 'correcting' my tendency to touch people on the arm or shoulder when talking to them. This tendency reappeared as 'SUSAN' crept from the closet.

I'm still afraid of fistfights. My daydreams still tend to center on what it would be like to be a woman and wear women's clothing (even though I am not familiar with the latter). My own sister pointed out that I 'sit like a girl' while reading and I played with my hair behind my ears. - guilty on every count!

I always wondered why everyone else seemed to know instinctively how to behave and how things were done but I had to be eternally vigilant for clues and carefully followed the examples set by my more knowledgeable peers. I usually chose the rowdiest, roughest models lest there be any doubts among my observers.

My state of mind is clear in this memory: sitting in a grade school classroom on the first day of school, the teacher going through the class for names, calling "Next boy" or "Next girl," - and me, waiting in such anxiety that I would be called "Next GIRL" that I got myself thrown out of class to avoid what may have been a social branding that would mark me forever.

There were no light moments when it came to identifying one by gender. Although in retrospect, I can laugh at the Neanderthal gait I adopted in high school to insure a masculine identification.

These aforementioned 'tip of the iceberg' memories did not result in becoming introverted and descending into self-analysis. Rather, they resulted in a feeling of great anger and loss.

I have long accepted and supported a theory of their being a biological source for the condition in which we find ourselves. Transvestite fantasy tales usually involve the hapless TV being forced into skirts and finding the experience so joyful that they never really want to get back to their bluejeans. The responsibility for initiating the activity lies on someone else's shoulders and we happily live out what others have initiated. Reading through 'Tootsies Who Suffer' brought home to me that if this is true, then I had no choice; that this is my lot and I'm stuck with it.

What then am I missing? What have I exchanged for this unusual starting point? There is a joy in physically aggressive behavior (not hostile) that is uniquely masculine. I have experienced that joy at times, but it is not "there" for me. I have to dredge it up. Most people feel a certainty about their identity that is acceptable to all, that allows a freedom of expression that I do not feel. What would life be without this terrible secret? What might I have done? Who might I have been had I not felt 'wrong' for most of my life and had not

devoted so much energy to hiding?

So what has happened?

I've exchanged guilt for anger. The guilt had diminished through an acceptance of myself as I was (am). I also realize that the guilt was a product of feeling responsible for having made a choice, somehow, to be what I am - biologically or not. The anger is directed out. I feel cursed, though it could be blessed, but that society says "NO!" The anger has certainly diminished the pleasure, if not the compulsion, and at this point, I don't have any idea what to do about it. The dilemma remains the same; only the point of view has changed.

- END -

(The following incident occurred in Cincinnati, but the issue is relevant to us all. Edited from 'Inner View', published by Cross-Port, 2020 B Beechmont Ave, Box 150, Cincinnati OH 45230)

EDITORIAL:
by Heather Peerson

In the past year I, and several others, have had many good times at 1470 WEST. It seems now, however, that because of the actions of a few cross-dressers (not Cross-Port members), TV's and TS's who do not have ID's to show they are women are not welcome to go there any night but Sunday when they have their shows.

Their reasons seem sound. They've had complaints from some of the lesbians that cross-dressers tried to pick them up and some young people have cross-dressed and used fake ID's to get in. According to Mary, on of the managers, "75% of the Gay Community does not approve of cross-dressing and have stopped coming there because of us."

George, of the Greater Cincinnati Gay7/Lesbian Coalition, told me that while many gays do not like cross-dressing, the general feeling in the coalition is that if "they cannot accept people within their own community, how can THEY expect to be accepted in the main community?" We must be open and sensitive to all people even when we don't understand them, if we want to be accepted ourselves.

In most bars, if someone is causing trouble they are asked to leave and never return. In this case, the people that caused the trouble are able to come back as long as they don't dress. What happens if five or six gay people cause some trouble? Will they bar all gay people from the bar?

The worst part is that they still want us to feel welcome on Sunday night (most bar's slow night) when they have their 'drag shows'. If 75% of the Gay Community do not like 'drag', who are they having the shows for?

Cross-Port has consistently stressed the fact that when you go out into the gay/lesbian bars you should not try to 'hit' on the women or use the women's restrooms. We must respect the fact that they do have a right to their privacy. It would, however, be nice if places that do invite our business would consider our feelings and se aside a restroom for cross-dressers.

Not all of understand being a gay or lesbian, but we respect their right to live as they do. We only ask for the same kind of respect.

- END -

Cross-Port

2020 "B" Beechmont Ave. Box 150
Cincinnati, OH 45230

A support group for all Cross-Dressers.
Meetings - Third Thursday of the Month.
News-Letter - "InnerView" published monthly.
For more information write.

A Chapter of Gateway Gender Alliance

DEAR FRIENDS:

At no time during modern American history have the lives, livelihoods, homes and dignity of our sexual minorities and/or gender-conflicted citizens been more threatened than to the degree we are now experiencing. Using the fear and hysteria surrounding the AIDS epidemic as an excuse for repressive action, more negative initiatives were introduced in state legislatures in 1986 than ever before. and, despite the overwhelming defeat of Proposition 64 in California, those who would build their fortunes on the deathbeds of thousands of gay Californians are already planning their offensive for the upcoming legislative sessions nationwide.

Conservative right-wing religious based organizations are gearing up for 1987. Both the gay and lesbian community, as well as the gender-conflicted (TS) community, will be under increasing attack in coming months.

The insurance industry already is denying health and life insurance coverage to the gender-conflicted communities. The reason for denying health and life coverage to pre- and post-operative gender-conflicted applicants is stated in a recent letter from Mutual of Omaha--i.e.:

> "The specific medical reasons as to our decision to deny [applications from gender-conflicted individuals is that] [t]his situation requires intensive, often multiple procedures and continuing long-term maintenance or observation involving multiple systems as well as many bio-psycho-social aspects of care. Also, any exclusion rider would not be broad enough to adequately encompass this form of care."

The Gay and lesbian community have organized full-time political action groups to fight for their rights. The gender-conflicted community, however, has yet to establish such groups, let alone support any particular single individual(s), to fight for their interests.

Over the years there have been a number of gender-conflicted or TS-oriented groups but all have failed due to lack of support from the TS community. The ACLU Transsexual Rights Committee won a number of important victories for our community. But it failed to gain both physical and financial support from the community. Renaissance: Gender Identity Services ended its service to the community this past month (after 12 years of service) for exactly the same reason. J2CP Information Services has taken over the information/referral services of the Erickson Educational Foundation and JANUS Information Services, but it too is failing to gain the support of our community.

Jude Patton hosted an annual Renaissance potluck for seven years. He discontinued these get-togethers (the first had 19 attendees, the last 147), because he could no longer afford the expense or time to set them up and clean up afterwards. No one in the seven years ever offered to help set up or clean up afterwards. And, because of the numbers attending, Jude always hat to rent tables and chairs, and provide food for those individuals that never brought their own food to share. When he asked for a $3.00 donation to help with the cost, he received nothing more than blank stares.

This last year we lost Georgia Saunders, who published the Phoenix and established the Gateway Gender Alliance, which spread coast-to-coast. Georgia left some pretty big shoes to fill and so far no one has attempted to fill them.

The future of J2CP's director, Joanna Clark, a long-term activist for the community, is in question. Joanna remains committed to fighting for the rights of the TS community, but she will be taking religious vows in the not too distant future. If her community directs her to work in other areas, she will, by virtue of her vow

of obedience, be required to direct her energy elsewhere. Further, because of her strict vow of poverty, she will no longer be able to subsidize J2CP, as she did the ACLU TS Rights Committee, and other groups. Who will replace her?

Phoebe has published the TS-Voice the past 7 to 10 years with, until recently, no support from the community. Her recent need to raise the subscription price has resulted in numerous complaints being voiced locally. Are we so narrow-minded that we honestly believe that the Georgia's, Joanna's, Jude's, and Phoebe's of the wo9rld are making a profit on us?

They have been there when we needed them. But where have we been?

We have few Constitutional rights. We live in constant fear of exposure, loss of job and friends, etc. We are forced to pay cash up front for medical attention, even when we have insurance that will commit up-front to the surgeon and hospital the exact amount they will pay for each procedure, etc.

If every one of us were to commit $24.00 per year (that's $2.00 per month--the price of a hamburger and french fries at McDonald's) towards supporting an organization geared to providing up-to-date information to our brothers and sisters, geared to educating the public, and geared to fight for our rights, we might make a difference.

I remember a little story from 'Dear Abby' a few years back:

> First they came for the union workers, and I did not speak out . . .
>
> Then they came for the Catholics, and I did not speak out . . .
>
> Then they came for the Gays, and I did not speak out . . .
>
> They they came for the Jews, and I did not speak out . . .
>
> Then they came for me, and no one spoke out because there was no one left to speak out.

Isn't it about time we, as a community, spoke out?

Personally, I'm sending a check for $24.00 to CORISTA today to support J2CP Information Services and the TS support service that Joanna Clark is trying to establish. Please, won't you do the same? Joanna can be reached in care of: J2CP, Box 184, San Juan Capistrano, CA 92693-0184. checks should be made out to: Community of Religions in Service to America, or, CORISTA.

Thank you.

- In Sisterhood,
Andrea Lurie, Box 2747, Hollywood, CA 90078

- END -

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(Edited from the ETVC Newsletter, published by ETVC, P.O. Box 6486, San Francisco, CA 94101)

EDITORIAL:
- by Karin

IS YOUR 'GENDER ISSUE' REALLY THE ISSUE?

I eavesdrop on a lot of conversations. Not being nosy, just listening to stay in tune with what's going on. I hear about a lot of difficulties, confusion, and issues. I also hear a lot about the very basics of human relationships and what it takes to have one's life work.

For example, in hearing one person recount a recent dilemma, she herself came to the conclusion that she had a time management and a communication problem-- and neither had anything to do with gender. A horde of consultants make decent money teaching top executives to deal with these problems.

Another comment came from a reputable therapist in the gender community. She said one of the key skills that many of her clients lack is the ability to manage risk. Risk management is hardly the private turf of gender-challenged people. It includes having relationships, children, investments, and playing the lottery.

A third example comes from a person who reported that she had all her life goals and plans well-defined -- and wham! -- something unexpected came up and blew the plan out of the water. Nothing gender-specific here either. How many times has your picnic been rained on?

Perhaps our difficulty, confusion, and issues really stem from paying attention to the wrong things. When we overstate our gender situation, we might well be understating the importance of applying basic life management skills.

If there is merit in this notion, then there is probably more to be gained from taking a series of courses in life management skills than running the meter in a therapists's office, sitting around complaining about how your life isn't working, or creating an epic drama about your profound gender issue.

- END -

(Edited from the 'Seahorse Victoria Newsletter', published by Seahorse Victoria, GPO Box 2337V, Melbourne, Victoria, 3001 Australia)

EDITORIAL:
- Jan Baxter

Recently, I happened to watch a movie on television about a Texas beauty pageant winner who finally rebels against her superficial image. As she underwent her 'training' for the national contest, her coach speaks some very interesting lines to the young aspirant. They could easily be used by us in our own quest. "You must appear, and be, serene. Serenity leads to inner beauty, and inner beauty is the secret to outer beauty. You must act as if!"

We've mentioned this before when we've talked about self-acceptance, attention to detail and similar articles. Until you can accept yourself for being what you are, then you will have doubts, confusion, anguish and perhaps, feelings of guilt. There is no simple solution to this dilemma, but it can be resolved, and our social program is designed, in part at least, to provide a forum for resolution. Once you can accept yourself for being what you are, then you can achieve that feeling of being at ease, a sense of well-being, and serenity. It's a tremendous step towards enjoying life.

And, it works! As many of you know, I practice what I preach. I have written in the past of my seven and eight day stints around the country-

side. This year, I've spent seven and a half weeks 'femme', and found it to be one of the most relaxing an enjoyable times I've ever had. As well as the special outings - opera, films, lunches and dinners with friends, attending a fashion parade, modeling for a fashion boutique and a five-day holiday in Echuca with Lynette - I also did the more mundane things - shopping, b'll-paying, visits to banks, post offices, dry cleaners, chemists, etc, etc. Three years ago, if anyone said that I could be doing such things without a worry, I would not have believed it possible. But, I enjoyed my transvestism, gave up thinking about "Why," and began thing "Why not?", and began to do what I had only dreamt about doing. It was difficult at first, I felt very self-conscious about using public transport and going out during the day. But, my confidence grew. I visited different beauty parlours for free 'make-overs', studied fashions carefully and enrolled in a fashion and colour consultancy course. As I improved my appearance, I began to buy more suitable clothes. The whole thing was snowballing, much to my delight. I feel confident about my appearance most of the time, and have the attitude now, that if I'm 'picked' then let them say, "That's a man... but, look how well he's dressed and made-up!" No more "Whys" for me. It's all "Why Nots?" What about you?

- END -

Dear Editor

Just a quick note for those who are on hormones.

Have you been on female hormones for at least a month or two, or possibly longer? How much change have you seen in your body during this time? One of the key words here is "patience".

Too many people expect overnight miracles of feminization and breast development. It doesn't happen! The basic changes in your body such as softening of the skin, change in body hair, emotions, etc. take months to occur, and the changes are not the same in everyone. Some genetic males just don't have the physiology in their body chemistry to accept estrogen and progesterone. Age also plays an important factor, and how many years testosterone has had to have its effects on the male body. For someone in early twenties, female hormones will have a much quicker, and much more positive effect than for someone int heir 40's. This is simply due to the fewer number of years that testosterone has had to affect their metabolism.

Another facet that needs to be considered is the type of hormones that you are taking. And here the argument of generic vs natural hormones comes into play. Again there is no one answer for everyone because everyone is different inside. Some people react very well to the cheaper generics, while others, such as myself, find taking the natural estrogen Premarin ("little purple footballs") has better results.

I had been on hormones on fairly high daily dosages, plus biweekly shots, for several months. I was using a generic estrogen. But one day my pharmacist changed makers of the conjugated estrogen for the generic product. I started reversing after taking these for about three days, and the first to change were my breasts. I sat back and thought, and then got my prescription refilled with the natural estrogen, not generic. Within two days I noted a marked improvement in my development. As a matter of fact I saw more improvement taking the purple footballs than I had taking the first generic brand. So for me, the answer to good development was the more expensive Premarin, though I am still using generic Provera.

Another facet still is how you are taking your prescriptions. Most doctors may only tell you to take "two (or three) of these a day". The times you take your hormones is something that you can experiment with. Again, there is no one answer for everyone. Some people can forget to take their pill(s) in the morning, and take everything after work, and find satisfactory development. But as in my case, I had to stick to taking 2.5mgs every 8 hours to keep the estrogen in my body. Part of these hormones when taken orally will not be utilized by your body and will be ejected as waste since the human body can only absorb so much at a given time.

I also found that I could not take Provera (progesterone) in 5mg 'hits' at one time. I saw good breast stimulation a short time later but after the Provera wore off, my body had to wait another 24 hours for another dose, and as such didn't hold the positive effects as long. I found that I hat to take 2.5mgs with two of my daily dosages of Premarin. That left only 8 hours that there was little Provera in my system. so I saw a gradual yet positive development that had a very steady climb with fewer peaks and valleys. I also made it a rule to stay on my dosage regimen with a religious fervor. For me that works but for someone else that type of discipline may not be necessary.

I am not a medical doctor, and do not espouse this as coming from a medical 'expert'. some of this information is commonly known such as the time needed for change (you are not going to change any quicker than a normal teenager in puberty). But for the dosages et al there is some common sense and experience with taking hormones for many months. Too many people try taking something, it doesn't do what they want fast enough and they get discouraged. All I am saying is if something isn't working for you the way you feel it should there is usually no harm to experimenting with dosages and times. But I want to stress that you must be under a physician's care. Let the doctor know what you are doing and why. Hormones have such a drastic effect on the human body they are nothing to fool with. That is why the Standards of Care were established to monitor and stabilize physiological changes in the transformation from one sex to another. It is serious business.

Two or three issues back, Tapestry ran a good article on hormones that is a very well done guide for the basic information. This letter is meant to be an add-on to that. Follow your doctor's advice, see what does and doesn't work for you, and you are on your way to a lasting change in your physical self.

Sincerely,
- JoAnn Renee Cone Ph.D.

Dear Editor

The following letter is in response to an article entitled 'Altered States', written by Ian Brown, appearing in the Toronto Globe and Mail.

Mr. Brown has skillfully executed a subtle but devastating portrayal of men and women who undergo gender-reassignment as nothing more than sex-crazed "impostors" who run rampant in "their own moral universe in the far-out hills of transsexualism." Does this kind of irresponsible reporting belong in the reputable Globe? I could see such sensationalist tripe appearing in the National Inquirer, or better yet in the pages of the National Lampoon (ala their 'Queen Kong' feature a few years ago).

Mr. Brown repeated the word 'sex' 22 times although transsexualism has virtually nothing to do with sex per se. Gender, not sex, specifically 'gender identity' - the persisting intuitive sense of being masculine or feminine, boy/man or a girl/woman - is the primary preoccupation of transsexuals. 'Cross-gender identity' is the crux (the painful conundrum) of the 'gender dysphoria syndrome' (the medical term for the condition), not sex.

Yet, Mr. Brown repeated 'sex' 22 times. He had sex on the brain.

Mr. Brown distorted reality. For instance, in my case he talked of "atavistic traces of a woman's manner" and that I was a "confirmed lesbian." Both of these judgments are false. It slays me how a reporter for a reputable newspaper such as the Globe could get his facts so wrong, especially considering he interviewed a number of people, both 'consumers' and 'providers'. I have been living as a man since I was 19, and had my surgery when I was 20. Yes, I was born female, but I was never a woman, and I am not a lesbian.

Too bad Mr. Brown chose to sensationalize the personal sexual inclinations/exploits of certain individuals rather than focusing on more of the real issues facing transsexual citizens. These issues could have included such things as marriage and divorce, child custody, discrimination, rejection, assault, sub-standard professional care, economic disparity, an almost invisible political profile, religious 'brain-washing', and an increasingly rampant 'yellow journalism' ala Mr. Brown.

I wonder if Mr. Brown would call is own mother, father, sister, brother, daughter, son, wife, or friend a "sexual eccentric" if he found out that he or she were transsexual. Would he call them an "illusion" who "longed radically to be average"? The more vital question is, would Mr. Brown reject such a loved one as some sort of freak, betraying his or her trust by setting them up to appear as little more than a class of sexually interesting human oddities - like he did in the Globe and Mail?

Perhaps Mr. Brown, his editor, publisher, and all those who read the Globe should take heed of the proverb, "There, but for the grace of God, go I."

- Rupert Raj
Director, MMRF

(Edited from 'Crossroads Chatter', published by Crossroads Chapter, P.O. Box 196, Garden City, MI 48135)

EPITAPH FOR WELMA

I remember her smile, her quietness, her shyness, her despair, her hopes, her swiftness to be come her, she, female, woman. Welma committed suicide a few days after she was at a Crossroads meeting and a few short moments after a group session with her TS peers and psychologist. The tragic words of her death hit home with sobering thoughts of what is all this worth, the fight for identity, and for peer support whether we are TV or TS. Welma came to Crossroads for the first time during our picnic, and soon after found a transsexual therapist and physician to assist her in her dreams. Unfortunately, the many years of struggle, divorce, difficulties with her boss, job, roommate, and self-identity being a 6'7" person was apparently too much of a reality far removed from the dreams of womanhood. It has been said that she needed to go at a slower pace, not to rush. She certainly saw that her TV and TS sisters seemed to have the physical attributes to become women easier than her handicap of size. Unfortunately, society's and our own self-adulation lead to our own unhappiness based on superficial physical facade. But, isn't it ironic that the external seems to be more important than the quality of internal kindness that makes the difference so real, so different, so erotic, and a goal in itself.

Behold femininity, womanhood! Some will die to realize their dream, die to reach their fantasy, their inner self. I hope that Welma has reached her promised land to BE....for we all have shared in her agony and dreams. Rest in peace, Welma.

- In sadness, Milesa

* * * *

OBSERVATIONS - An Editorial

- by Milesa Phar

I need to share some personal thoughts on kindness and helping our sisters beyond the superficial. Ever since the loss of Welma to suicide, I have talked with many friends about all our roles as friends and members of a "support" group. Just exactly who are s"pposed to be supporting? Are we supporting the make-up companies and clothing manufacturers, or real live human beings in need of self-worth, identity and meaning in life? Yes, it is more fun to get wrapped up in the glitz, cream and shine, nylons, and glimmer, but we're here to help people.

I am concerned about our sisters who hurt the feelings of those with different styles of dress or a different image of 'femininity' or womanhood. Some inflict their own opinions of what they think is feminine upon others who either are learning, developing, or express themselves differently. To not realize were our sisters are coming from and what they intend to do may do harm beyond repair, as it did with Welma.

A few days ago I received a letter from a beautiful member of Crossroads who was criticized for her style of dressing by another member who should have known better. Outwardly, she may not fit the common picture in Glamour Magazine, but we are not a fashion plate. We are a support group, here to educate and expand those who cross our doors, to say that variety is the spice of life and not the cloning of Brooke Shields! (I would trade bodies any day though!)

Thank goodness most of our members have thick enough skins to ward off insults, but I wish our members would extend their kindness rather than unwarranted criticism based on narrow, short sighted definitions. The big paradox of our group is the problem of showing our best dress for those who meet the public to influence their acceptance. Stark realities of the spectrum of cross-dressing can be alarming beyond the difficulties of men in dresses and makeup appearing in public. There are no easy answers but to educate ourselves first, to understand ourselves first!

- END -

(*** At the recent 'Coming Together' Convention, Niela Miller, president of 'People Systems Potential', conducted a special two-day workshop specifically on the issues of peer support. The purpose of the workshop was to teach the leaders of our community how do do a better job of providing peer support. It was one of the best received and most important programs at the convention. Milesa is exactly right - the most important job we have is to provide effective peer support, and to do that we must educate ourselves first. - ED)

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TERRI'S THOUGHTS

by Terry Scott

During a recent television talk show discussion on cross-dressers, the interviewer poised two questions to the cross-dressers being interviewed. Why do you do it, and would you stop if you could? Yvonne of Columbus, Ohio, answered that she did not know why she did it and if she did, she would be able to help a lot of others like herself. She couldn't really answer about stopping because like so many of us, she doesn't know what it would be like without her feminine desires. Good answers and probably typical for most of us.

Sitting in the audience, I wondered to myself how I'd answer the same questions. Fortunately, I wasn't on the spot like Yvonne having to provide an immediate answer. The more I thought about the questions, the more I realized that I knew the answers all too well. I dress because my femininity is an integral part of my being, it's right at the core of my being and always has been. Yes, I love doing it and it certainly preserves my sanity by doing it, I have to do it! I guess that I am describing what professionals would call an uncontrollable compulsion. So be it. My feminine activities hurt no one, are a part of me and I enjoy it. What caused these deep, intense feminine feelings I don't know nor does anyone else. They are there and they are me, that is what is known. Also known is that suppressing my feminine desires if not impossible, is a quick ticket to the funny farm and much greater problems. I'm constantly amazed at the large number of cross-dressers that I meet who suppressed their feminine desires for years, until they were on the brink of serious mental problems and their total life about to go down the drain. I gave in early to my desires, perhaps I was weaker, I don't know. I do know that I've never regretted doing so. Life ceased being an unbelievable problem for me once I accepted my feminine desires.

My answer to the first question pretty much tells you what my second answer would be. Quit? You've got to be kidding! Why would I want to quit being me? I can't imagine being a so-called 'normal' male and quite frankly don't want to know. If I am going to be 'normal' then let me ba 'normal' female. That's all I've ever wanted. I've never had any interest or desire to be a male. Perish the thought!

Now, some of you reading this will undoubtedly conclude that I am a TS because of my lack of desire to be a 'normal' male. I appreciate your feelings, but I don't know if you are correct, because I don't know what I am myself, except a person with intense feminine desires. The more I hear about TV-TS and the possibility of moving from one to the other, the more confused I become. I have begun to wonder if the whole classification bit isn't just one big pile of horse manure. i read Kim Elizabeth Stuart's fine book, 'The Uninvited Dilemma', and it caused me to dig out Harry Benjamin's book, 'The Transsexual Phenomenon'. Written twenty years ago, Benjamin's book and work are still regarded as the cornerstone of research on the subject. The key element in his work was the creation of three classes of TV's and a like amount for TS's. The classes were what Benjamin called a 'Sex Orientation Scale, Sex and Gender Role Disorientation and Indecision.' I had forgotten that Benjamin stated that there can be an overlapping of classes with an individual having characteristics of more than one type. Also, Benjamin calls his first class of TS 'non-surgical'. This latter point was very significant to me because I have heard over and over again from TS's that you cannot be a TS unless you plan to have surgery. It is almost their battle cry to distinguish and separate themselves from TV's.

Ms Stuart states that transvestism and transsexualism are separate conditions and are not related. Benjamin felt that they were related conditions and one could progress from one to the other./ The danger of this philosophy was very well pointed out by

Cheryl Costa in her article, 'Playing the Transsexual Game', in TAPESTRY #49. When you fall into the gray area between TV and TS, there are tremendous pressures within our own culture to go for it. As strange as it may sound, it is more socially acceptable to be a TS than a TV. TSism has become a recognized medical problem, while TVism is a sexual problem and society doesn't like sexual problems. In other words, a TV is a pervert, a TS is not. That's not true, but is i8n the minds of many.

Like many others, I have never liked being called a TV, perhaps because of the social stigma of 'pervert', but also because I've always felt that my very being is female. Most TV's that I've met are definitely male, many go out of their way to reinforce their maleness despite the fact that they are dressed as women. I never could understand that type of action. I just don't relate to that type of behavior, therefore, I must be a TS. But, despite Benjamin's classification of a non-surgical TS, my TS friends say, "NO WAY!" Therefore, long ago I adopted the philosophy that I am me and that's that, and I don't give a damn what you think I am. It works for me and I think it has saved me a lot of needless mental problems. I think that it may also work for others who occupy the gray area.

Life is too short to worry about what others think of you both outside and inside of our society. The main thing is to be happy about yourself and enjoy your life to the fullest. Knowing yourself will also help you avoid the very big mistake of having sexual reassignment surgery if it is not really what you should consider or do. There have been many mistakes made as Cheryl Costa pointed out in her article, permanent mistakes.

No one can tell you what your feelings and emotions are. They can try to understand them but that's as far as it goes. I was taken to task recently by a respected member of our community for something I wrote in this publication. This lady not only disagreed with my article buy she told me that my thinking on the subject was wrong and that I do not truly feel that way. She was argumentative and determined to change my feelings. Being a lady, I excused myself from the discussion. She can't know what is inside of my pretty head and that's that. The title of this column is 'Terri's Thoughts' and that is what is contained. I hope that they are helpful to you, but you are you. If you are languishing in that gray area between TV and TS, step back and think about it. Perhaps the solution to your situation is to simply adopt my philosophy, be yourself and enjoy yourself.

- END -

TRANSSEXUAL IN PRISON

Dear Tapestry

In March of 1984 I filed a civil rights complaint, in Des Moines IA, against the Iowa Department of Corrections. The suit was reported in newspapers throughout the country, and in 'the Tapestry'. The suit is still pending, and we should receive a ruling soon. I would like to share with the Tapestry readers a little about myself and the suit, and would sincerely appreciate receiving any suggestions and/or comments.

I am a pre-operative male-to-female transsexual, having been diagnosed on several occasions by "experts" as suffering from gender dysphoria. Prior to my arrest in June of 1982 (for 2nd degree robbery) I was living and working as a female. I was sentenced to a period not to exceed ten years. My involvement in the crime was for purposes of seçuring funds to obtain medical care and treatment for my transsexualism.

Since my incarceration in this all-male, all macho prison environment I have received absolutely no treatment for my transsexualism, even though 'gender dysphoria' is recognized by the

American Psychiatric Association (A.P.A.) as being a serious mental condition. Minimal standards of treatment established by the A.P.A. and followed by the Harry Benjamin International Gender Dysphoria Association (H.B.I.G.D.A.) consist of (1) full-time cross-dressing, (2) hormonal therapy, and (3) psychotherapy. I would add a fourth for the incarcerated diagnosed transsexualism: appropriate living conditions, classification, adequate protection, rights to privacy, personality and existence in the chosen gender. The law in the State of Iowa is discriminatory against transsexuals, or those who claim to be transsexual.

These 'minimal standards of treatment' have not been provided to me, even though it was testified that failure to provide at least minimal treatment for my gender dysphoria could have and likely will have permanent consequences, including psychological and physical harm. The Iowa Department of Corrections has demonstrated total indifference to the seriousness of my problem. Rather than treatment I have b placed in administrative segregation status (lock-up) for the past three years.

Is it not the job of correctional authorities to better a person? To rehabilitate them? How can someone be 'rehabilitated' when what has caused the problem in the first place is ignored? 'Administrative segregation' is not treatment! The Iowa Department of Corrections claim that treatment may not reasonably be met by the prison system. Why? WHY must I continue to experience this unnecessary suffering? These inhuman conditions? The negativism, harassment and intimidation?

I admit to being rebellious at times, but only to protect and defend my female identity against the oppression brought on by the guards and other prisoners. I will not allow my true identity, my true self and self-image to be suppressed!

I do realize that gender issues are quite controversial and complicated, and not easily understood by the lay-person. But, why can't people spend a little time and have a more sympathetic approach when dealing with gender dysphoric persons, instead of indifference?

Ms Tammy Lynn White
c/o Iowa State Penitentiary
P.O. Box 316
Ft. Madison, IA 52627

Dear Friends:

In spite of a demanding work load, I am finding more and more ways to integrate and affirm both my masculine and feminine natures in the midst of living my rather male oriented roles.

If I cannot put on Kyelle's clothes from day to day, I, and with the help of my wife, am finding more and more ways to put on Kyelle's nature any time or place that I choose. Often when I am with other people only I am aware that it is Kyelle who is present. But the combination of the outer masculine with the inner feminine offers to others sensitivity, perception and insight with powerful affect that is appreciated by the others and very rewarding to me.

Returning from the Tiffany Club the other night I remembered some words on the application form. Often it takes only one word to stir a string of thought in me. The application called for one's "adopted name." "That sounds strange," I thought to myself. I have never though of Kyelle as a name that I have adopted. In adoption, one reaches outside one's self and draws something from outside to bring it inside. That however has not been what I have experienced as I have come to know myself as Kyelle. The process has not

been a matter of reaching outside myself to bring Kyelle into and add to my life. Quite the opposite. The process has been a matter of reaching inside myself and finally accepting and affirming what was already there. It is that process that prompted the following article, 'What's In A Name?"

* * * * *

WHAT'S IN A NAME?

by Kyelle B. (MA-1218)

My name is Kyelle and I am a transvestite. More accurately, the name is Kyelle. the other name's hiddenness reflects the lack of integration of my self with the community in which I live and work. The words 'integration' and 'integrity' have the same linguistic roots. In many ways, I know the lack of integrity produced by living with the hiddenness. I look forward to the healing that the increase of integration of self with society can bring. Before a person can be integrated with and o9ne with society, a person must become at one with himself. Before others can affirm one by one's name, the name must be accepted by the person himself.

The road to the integration of the name 'Kyelle' in my personal life has been long and painful. Along the way, I owe much to the encouragement and support of two dear people, my wife and my psychologist. The road has often been detoured by endless miles of denial. Reality will not be denied no matter how long and winding our detours. I have only come to travel along with the ways of human wholeness by accepting instead of denying the names. One of those names I have given to myself. Life has given the other to me. The names 'Kyelle' and 'transvestite' affirm and accept a part of my life that holds a sacramental quality. Cross-dressing is but an outward sign of a larger inner reality. The feminine side of my personhood is such a large part of me that not only am I sometimes quite comfortable in feminine clothing, but I am also quite comfortable knowing myself and being known by others as Kyelle.

Such has not always been the case. For the longest time I leerily eyed the feminine presence within me as a curse instead of as a blessing. I was so fearful of what the feminine might take from me and do to me. It was beyond my wildest dreams that the feminine might ever do anything for me. My entire life, my career, marriage, parenthood and masculinity all seemed to stand under a threat. The threat evaporated when I opened my heart to the spirit within. Instead of defaming it, I named it. I am a transvestite and my name is Kyelle.

The amount of confusion cut through by the act of naming is incredible. Each of us are different. Each of us who are male experience our masculinity differently. I for one experience my masculinity through my love for and life with my wife, my fatherhood, my competitiveness and my drive, my authority and my power, and through my exploring nature and problem-solving adventures. I must admit that for the longest time my maleness had a distant and depressive "as if" quality to it. My masculinity never seemed to be mine. My life never seemed to be mine. I often felt that I was living some prescribed role that never quite fit instead of writing the words to my own life's script. That all stands to reason. A bit of confusion is bound to exist when a daily experienced undercurrent carries the nagging question, "Am I really a woman trying to be a man?" To live one's life as one's own is difficult with a constant knot in the throat and fist in the gut. The "as if" quality was lifted by accepting and affirming the names.

Twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week, fifty-two weeks a year, I am a transvestite. What a relief that is. Accepting and affirming my femininity has given me my masculinity. I had so feared that the presence of the feminine would somehow immobilize me. Instead, the naming has enpowered me. I so often experienced the masculine and the feminine engaged in the constant inferno of internal conflict. I

was so determined that the masculine would win. All or nothing I thought. To the victor belongs the spoils. The battle was so fierce that the prize was fast becoming a very spoiled life indeed. Then, I named her and the warfare ended. Instead of wrestling with this part of myself, I embraced this part and let the feminine become a part of me. On the other side of the conflict I found that the act of naming, affirming and accepting the feminine made whole the masculine.

I am a transvestite. Affirming that name makes so clear what I am and what I am not. In this life which does include so much masquerade and illusion, clarity about who I am is helpful. I am not a man who sometimes desires to be a woman. I am not a transvestite only when cross-dressed. I am not a man who sometimes pretends to be a woman. I am not a woman who is trapped in a male body and wants out. I am a transvestite in my male garb and in my female attire. I sometimes put on something soft and silky on the outside because I already have on something soft and silky on the inside. Cross-dressing is still important to me and probably always will be. The naming has put that act in perspective. As long as I denied the name, I secretly harbored the fear that what my life was all about was nothing more than the sad trips to the closet. The naming has made me find myself inside myself instead of in a closet.

Transvestite is the name that life has given to me. Kyelle is the name that I have given to myself to affirm a reality large enough to call by name. That name is neither a disguise nor a pretending. It is the acceptance of a reality that without affirming I remain quite incomplete.

- END -

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NON-FICTION

QUESTIONS ASKED BY WIVES AND MATES OF CROSS-DRESSERS

(*** Recently, members of the Chi Chapter and their wives appeared on the 'Phil Donahue Show'. Since then that Chapter has been besieged by questions from wives and significant others from around the world. Chi's Wives Network compiled a list of the most commonly asked questions. The following is an incomplete list of those questions in order of frequency asked.

Renee Chevalier of TGIC and Merissa Lynn of IFGE have given their answers. You might like to study the questions and see what your answers would be.)

QUESTION #1: Is my husband (boyfriend, friend) gay because he likes to cross-dress?

RENEE: Most cross-dressers are not gay - and the only abnormality usually is the cross-dressing.

MERISSA: Most male cross-dressers are attracted to females. The desire is to emulate one's love object, not be a love object to another man. The 'turn-on' is 'femininity', not 'masculinity', therefore, relatively few cross-dressers are gay. In fact the ratio of homosexuality among cross-dressers is lower than it is among the population in general. That is not to say there are not a lot of gay cross-dressers. There are, but only because there are a lot of gay people, and some of them are bound to enjoy cross-dressing.

(Renee Chevalier, TGIC)

QUESTION #2: Why does he wear the clothes of the opposite sex?

RENEE: Most cross-dressers find comfort in wearing the clothes of the opposite gender. Another reason is the release of tension.

MERISSA: Most cross-dress because they enjoy it. It's rewarding.

The nature of that reward is entirely up to the individual. It may be nothing more than a 'turn-on', or an escape, or it feels good, or narcissism, or a way to express an otherwise repressed part of one's personality. Whatever the reason, whether that be emotionally rewarding, sensually rewarding, or sexually rewarding, or all three, it is one thing - rewarding.

QUESTION #3: Will the cross-dresser ever stop dressing, or will this behavior continue throughout his lifetime?

RENEE: Some cross-dressers stop from time to time (purges) but usually continue after a period of time. Sometimes when a cross-dresser reaches a very mature age he stops, but that is extremely rare.

MERISSA: A cross-dresser will possibly if not probably stop, mostly because of 'boredom', and not because of any 'cure'. However, if he does stop, he will most likely start again. I've never known anyone to be 'cured' of the desire. I've never known a case where repressing or denying the desire worked. I've also known people to 'purge', but all that did was stop the cross-dressing, not the desire. I've seen a lot of people 'purge', and 'deny', and I've seen the tragic consequences - guilt, fear, hatred, even suicide. If a person is going to stop, it will happen naturally, not by force.

QUESTION #4: Will he ever become a transsexual and have the operation to change his sex?

RENEE: Most trans-gendered people are just that... trans-gendered, not transsexual, and when they learn of themselves they realize they are both, not just one or the other. Transsexualism is a very rare thing to have happen to any individual. Usually the 'either black or white' person has the most problems with transsexualism because they must be 'either/or' and not 'both'.

MERISSA: I don't know of anyone who has ever become a transsexual (TS). Most TS's have known or suspected what they were from early childhood. In fact, the reverse is usually true. Most people who suspect themselves of being TS will learn to live without having surgery, become a cross-dresser, or a transgenderist (one who cross-lives), or perhaps live without cross-dressing altogether. Very few will eventually come to the conclusion that re-assignment surgery is, in fact, correct for them.

(Merissa Sherrill Lynn, IFGE)

(I have a warning: If a transsexually inclined person does not seek help, does not learn to deal with his feelings, or how to take responsibility for his actions, or how to live with the consequences of those actions, there is a strong potential for a real tragedy. I'm not talking divorce or unhappiness; I'm talking mutilation and death.)

QUESTION #5: Will my spouse want to appear in public cross-dressed, or will dressing at home satisfy him?

RENEE: Some cross-dressers are very good at being able to go into the public eye and be what they appear to be. This does not mean that all people who cross-dress will try to appear in public in their adopted role.

MERISSA: Some will be quite

content to have the freedom to dress at home. For most though, being 'all dressed up with no place to go' is extremely frustrating. Fortunately there are a growing number of good support groups with activities programs that provide places to go and things to do without danger. Many cross-dressers, with experience and confidence and skill, will be able to, and want to go out whenever and where-ever.

QUESTION #6: Should our children be told that my spouse or mate cross-dresses, or should we keep it away from them?

RENEE: Some cross-dressers have told their children at a very young age. Others have never told their children. Still others wait until 'their children are old enough to understand'. There are many ideas, but I think the best way to put it is on a 'need to know' basis. If both decide there is a need to know, then the children should be told.

MERISSA: 'To tell or not to tell' is strictly up to the individual. From my observation it seems to work better if the children know and are taught to treat it for what it is - no big deal! I'm just uncomfortable with people making themselves vulnerable to being caught in a lie by people as important as their children. However, I'm even more uncomfortable with people telling their children, and treating it as mommy or daddy's 'condition'. As for children being harassed at school, children are harassed at school anyway, and at what age do you teach your children how to cope and put up with other people's problems? As for creating gender conflicted children - I haven't seen it happen. People have to decide what is right for their own families.

QUESTION #7: Should we tell our close friends and relatives that he is a cross-dresser?

RENEE: This can be handled on the 'need to know' basis. do relatives have to know? Do friends have to know? Is there a reason for people to know? Those are the questions you have to ask yourself.

MERISSA: The consequences of not telling them can be severe - fear, blackmail, ulcers, stress, etc. The consequences of them knowing, or at least being able to cope with the possibility of them finding out, is less severe. My suggestion is don't bother telling them if they don't need to know, but be prepared to tell them if necessary, and above all, treat it for what it is - no big deal!

QUESTION #8: How do you handle the unexpected visit by friends, relatives, etc. while cross-dressed?

RENEE: Fly by the seat of your pants (or skirts) and handle the situation the best you can. Many spouses as well as cross-dressers have come up with some innovative ideas.

MERISSA: If you are not prepared to be 'discovered', don't answer the door, or don't be too far from the washroom. The "I'm his sister from Duluth" excuse doesn't fly.

QUESTION #9: Is there any literature available on the subject of cross-dressing?

RENEE: There are numerous articles on cross-dressing, but were written by very poorly informed individuals. There are a growing number of educational groups dedicated to providing information.

MERISSA: Of course - read the Tapestry. Barring that, contact: The Outreach Institute, Box 368 Kenmore Sta., Boston MA 02215, Chevalier Publications, Box 36091, Los Angeles, CA 90036, J2CP Information Services, Box 184, San Juan Capistrano CA 92693 714-496-5227

Do not, repeat, DO NOT get your education from the local porno shop... unless that's truly where you want to get your education.

QUESTION #10: Can the cross-dresser be arrested for being cross-dressed?

RENEE: In some states it is still a crime to cross-dress.

MERISSA: NO... in most states. However, I understand there are a few (fortunately very few) unenlightened states and a few local ordinances where it is still unlawful (mostly to prevent prostitution). In most places cross-

dressing is not illegal unless you are doing something else illegal. Also, the police look askance on people running through Sears wearing a green afro wig, a pink baby doll, and 6" heels. Mostly though, cross-dressing in public is no problem.

QUESTION #11: Can this be considered or is it considered a mental illness?

RENEE: Yes. According to many psychologists it is compulsive deviate behavior, and is classified as mental illness. The only problem with this is most cross-dressers do not feel ill, and none have been cured.

MERISSA: Anyone can call anybody mentally ill for any reason. I am a cross-dresser. I am also a happy and productive human being, and cross-dressing keeps me that way. If cross-dressing is a mental illness, than God bless my illness, and may I never be cured.

QUESTION #12: What is the average age most cross-dressers started?

RENEE: It seems as though the ages range from 6 to 12 years old. Many do start later and earlier.

MERISSA: Many start as young children when playing 'dress up' is fun, and perhaps emotionally rewarding. Others start as older children when 'vanity' sets in, and they enjoy looking at themselves all dressed up and pretty, and feeling good. Others start with puberty, and dressing up is a 'turn-on'. Others start when they first discover that cross-dressing is rewarding (somewhere between the ages of 2 - 104). In short, there is no average age.

QUESTION #13: Is it true that the cross-dresser actually has two personalities?

RENEE: Some cross-dressers say that there are two completely different personalities, one male one female. Others claim that there is only one.

MERISSA: No, unless the person is completely schizoid (in which case the cross-dresser's name is probably 'Sybil'). Expressing oneself as a different person is little more than giving one's personality a broader range of expression.

QUESTION #14: Is there a cure for cross-dressing?

RENEE: No! Many a cross-dresser has submitted to shock therapy, aversion therapy and many other forms of therapy, trying to stop cross-dressing. The only therapy that seems to help is the therapy that gets the cross-dresser to accept himself.

MERISSA: Yes - boredom! Nothing else seems to work. However, the 'boredom' cure is usually short-lived. If the 'urge' goes away, sooner or later it's going to come back as either a long-lost friend, or as a dreaded enemy (preferably as a friend). Repression and denial are not cures.

QUESTION #15: Should we, or he, go for counseling?

RENEE: Both cross-dresser and mate should receive counseling, and if children are involved, they should also go for counseling.

MERISSA: If a counselor can help, yes! If not, no! You have to be very careful when searching for a therapist. When it comes to cross-dressing or transsexualism, it has been my experience that many counselors are more in need of help than the client. Many cross-dressers have been to counselors, and have cured dozens of them. If the counselor recognizes that the cross-dressing is not in and of itself the problem, that counselor may be of some use.

QUESTION #16: What is considered a 'normal' amount of cross-dressing?

RENEE: It is different for every cross-dresser.

MERISSA: There is no 'normal'.

QUESTION # 17: Does the cross-dresser have more respect for his mate because of cross-dressing?

RENEE: Yes! The cross-dresser is able to more easily identify with the needs of the mate.

MERISSA: I would like to think so, and many do, but that's not always the way it is. Many cross-dressers focus so much on their own needs that they are oblivious to their spouse's feelings.... and, their mates focus so much on their own feelings that they

are oblivious to their spouse's needs. I would love to see couples give each other the sensitivity, love, and respect each deserves. We are developing Wives/Couples Support Groups across the country to deal specifically with that.

QUESTION #18: Whose fault is it? The mate's? Mother's? Father's?

RENEE: You can eliminate the mate from being part of the cross-dresser's problem because the mate did not know the cross-dresser before the desire evolved. Mother and father probably had some influence, but not all the facts are in.

MERISSA: There is no 'fault'. The world is an influential place. Blame the world, if blame needs to be placed. However, since there is nothing wrong with cross-dressing, no blame needs to be placed. Would the question of 'fault' be raised if the person in question was a skier, or a bridge player, or a Republican? Personally, I feel the people who had the need to ask the question were at fault.

QUESTION #19: When the cross-dresser dresses in the clothes of the opposite sex, are they a turn-on?

RENEE: Usually early on, or when the cross-dresser first begins cross-dressing. The clothing is a turn-on but as the cross-dresser gets older it's more of an expression of inner feeling.

MERISSA: Absolutely! But... be careful how you define 'turn-on'. A cross-dresser can float in a cloud of euphoria, experience an explosion of sensual joy and love, without feeling the least bit sexually aroused. Happiness is one of the greatest turn-ons there is. However, sex is also a turn-on... as if you didn't know. It's supposed to be the male experience to feel turned on by an external object, preferably (but not always) female. It's supposed to be the female experience to feel turned on by feeling attractive to an external object, preferably (but not always) male. All people are capable of feeling both 'attractive' and 'attracted to' - it's a natural human condition. If a cross-dresser gets dolled up and experiences the sensual touch of the clothing and feels attractive, it's a turn on. If he sees himself in a mirror, he feels turned on by that external image he sees in the mirror. Feeling attracted to an image of himself while he is feeling attractive is <u>one hell</u> of a turn on. There is no happier person in the world than a cross-dresser in a room full of mirrors - unless he has a neadache. In which case, how do you tell your mirror, "Not tonight dear, I have a headache?"

- END -

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SPECIAL FEATURE:

(*** The Steering/Planning Committee for our first I.F.G.E. convention, held recently in Chicago, selected Dr. Virginia Prince as the person who has made the greatest life-time contribution to our community. An 'Outstanding Contribution' award was named in her honor, and will be presented annually by the Convention Steering/Planning Committee to an outstanding member of our Community. Dr. Prince's speech 'Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow' is a landmark speech for unity, for progress, and for direction.)

YESTERDAY, TODAY AND TOMORROW
or
WHERE WE WERE, WHERE WE ARE, WHERE WE MIGHT GO IN THE FUTURE

Keynote speech delivered by DR. VIRGINIA PRINCE
at the 1st annual I.F.G.E. 'Coming Together Convention' in Chicago, March 7, 1987

HELLO MY SISTERS! ... (- receiving an enthusiastic 'Hello Virginia' from the audience -)

Let me start out by welcoming you, not just to a gathering of cross-dressers in Chicago in March of 1987, but to what we may all hope becomes a historical occasion. It is rather fitting that I should have been asked to give the Keynote address at this convention because I opened one era for people like us when I started to publish 'Transvestia' in 1960. Today I am participating in the closure of that era and the opening of a new one. But, following my title, let us start with where we were 27 years ago.

Dr. Virginia Prince, Chicago 1987

Cross-dressing has occurred all down the ages and in all cultures. Those individuals who practiced it and who have come to our attention through historical records were usually isolated individuals. The situation was still that way in 1960. I had come to know about 8 or 10 other cross-dressers because we used to visit one of our number who was on welfare and had a rather beaten up house in Long Beach, Calif.. So, when in 1960 I decided that there ought to be a publication for people like myself, I approached these people and asked them to mention the ideas to their contacts. I asked for $4 for a year's subscription and over the next 2 months the number

increased to 25 and I felt that it was time to proceed. So issue No. 1 of Transvestia Magazine came off the press. 25 subscribers at $4 each meant that the venture started on $100 of capital. Issue #1 was 61 pages which my secretary typed and which was then photocopied.

By asking all subscribers to recommend it to their friends, by some small advertising effort and mostly by hope, it gradually grew. By No. 5 we started with our first Cover Girl which was Annette and some of you knew her. We also had internal pictures and it went on from there. At the time Transvestia was begun you couldn't find 10 TVs in one room at one time anywhere in the world. That was 27 years ago, and now look at us here. Progress has indeed been made.

A preview of our gathering here today occurred in 1962 when an early-on friend of mine named Susanna opened her resort in the Catskills for a famous weekend where some 62 TVs gathered. My clearest memory of that event was waking in the morning and going to the bathroom only to find it crowded with about 10 of the 'girls' in nighties, slips, panties, bras, and the like, all trying to see themselves in the mirror while trying to shave... It was so crowded that they missed their own cheeks and cut the girl beside them.

Dr. Wendell Pomeroy, one of the original Kinsey researchers, was there too and was heard to remark afterward that it had been the "most asexual weekend he had ever spent". I mention this because it illustrated the general conception amongst professionals at the time that cross-dressing was done primarily for sexual reasons and therefore it was expected that some kind of erotic activity would be going on behind every bush. Of course everybody was having too much fun just being girls to worry about sexuality, and I think the experience was not lost on the good doctor and other non-TVs who were there.

The following year, Susanna repeated the performance and I took the occasion to announce the formation of the Foundation for Personality Expression abbreviated FPE or Phi Pi Epsilon to put it in greek letters. This was the first organization for cross-dressers in this or, as far as I know, in any other country. Chapters were formed in many cities and then over the years there were other groups which formed on their own or sometimes broke away from FPE. As most of you know in 1980 we renamed the group 'The Society for the Second Self', or Tri-Ess for short. But FPE still survives in Scandinavia where I helped establish the group called FPE of North Europe. They too have an annual gathering at some resort in either Sweden or Denmark with 60 to 80 attendees. The Beaumont Society in England, formed by British members of FPE has also survived for nearly 20 years and has chapters all over England. It got its first rush of members as a result of an interview I gave to the Manchester Guardian in which I mentioned the group and they had 30 or 40 applications. Another group of former FPE members set up the Australian TV organization naming it the Seahorse Society because I had selected the Seahorse as our symbol since it is the male seahorse that guards and brings up the young. More recently another former member set up the Femme Travestie Society in Switzerland. So we are not alone being organized in the United States. As a result of these organizational activities and the publications that resulted from them, cross-dressers in all the western countries now at least know that there are organizations, that they are not alone and that if they wish to do so, they can meet and associate with others of the same persuasion.

I mention these things not to brag of my part in them but simply to review the situation as it was, the 'yesterday' in the title of this talk. It all started with 25 members scattered across the country and it has grown to many hundreds of members of several dozens of groups some of which are chapters of Tri Ess and others which are independent organizations. Those early efforts have paid off far beyond my imaginings of 1960.

So much for yesterday... what of today? Today we have several focal points in what Ariadne likes to call our 'para-culture'. Beginning at about the same time a dozen years ago, Ariadne and other members of the groups in Boston put together Fantasia Fair in Provincetown, and Marilyn in Seattle put together the 'DREAM' gathering on the Oregon coast. These two gatherings were on opposite sides of the continent and were quite different in other ways too. DREAM took place in a fancy leased group of condominiums where the participants lived in some pretty fancy apartments but did not mingle with the outside world. Fantasia Fair, on the other hand, was in a resort city which is very tolerant of gays and other minorities and where the participants are free to wander around town on their own visiting shops, restaurants, etc. just like any other tourist. The interesting thing about that experience is that no TV 'passes' in Provincetown for the simple reason that the only 'ladies' in town who wear dresses, heels, and makeup are the TVs. All the local women and most of the tourists who come to visit the town are in slacks and flat shoes and not particularly 'feminine' as we would define it.

I will put in a plug for the Fair at this point because it is an experience that all of you who have not been able to get out 'on the town' elsewhere should have.

These two pioneering groups were followed by the formation of the Tiffany Club in Boston which also had its special events in Provincetown and, in due course, there were weekend affairs organized in various places such as in the Poconos in Pennsylvania, Shangri-La and Tri Ess gatherins in New Orleans and San Francisco. Groups in the Bay area, in upstate New York in Orange county in California, and others that I have probably forgotten have gatherings from time to time. The mid-continent, not to be outdone by the East or West coast, has its 'Be All You Want To Be' weekend. The 'Be All' is sponsored by four separate groups, the Chi Chapter of Tri Ess, Crossroads in Michigan, Paradise Club in Ohio, and TransPitt in Pennsylvania. The gathering last year had 191 attendees of which something like 41 were couples, and was, I am sure, the largest gathering of cross-dressers that has ever occurred anywhere at any time. It was also outstanding in the large number of wives and girlfriends that attended.

On the publishing side there is still Transvestia now published by my friend Carol Beecroft, and the Tapestry published by the person who has been the instigator and driving force behind this convention, Merissa Sherrill Lynn. The Tapestry has become a very respectable sized magazine and one which serves all shades of opinion in our culture. And of course there are a number of newsletters put out by the various chapters and groups around the country. So the amount of printed material available today is considerable and no cross-dresser anywhere need be without at least correspondent contacts even if she lives in the middle of the badlands of the Dakotas.

Unfortunately there are a lot of other publications which directly relate sex and cross-dressing which do not improve our image. Not that CDs are not as sexual as anyone else, but unfortunately there are many shrinks, as well as the lay public that think that the only reason we cross-dress is to get our sexual kicks and when so many magazines of this type appear it tends to vindicate their position and thus blinds them and the rest of the public to any understanding of the real nature and purpose of cross-dressing.

The other aspect of our contact with the main stream lies in appearances and lectures. As most of you know I initiated such appearances on radio and TV back in the early sixties. In fact, probably a fair number of you here today first learned that there were others like yourself and there were publications and groups for people like yourself either from catching one of my appearances or hearing about it from a friend. Out of curiosity, will those of you who did make your first contact through one of my appearances

please raise your hands? (- Nearly 1/2 the audience raised their hands. -)

I exposed myself like that so that others could find me because I had no means of finding them. I guess I must have made about 100 appearances around the country between 1963 and 1970. I didn't mind doing it in those days but once I started living full time as Virginia and traveling around the world with tour groups I had to stop it. When I could retire back into the personality of 'Charles' I felt fairly safe that I would not be recognized as also being Virginia. But once I started living full time as Virginia and traveling around the world with tour groups I had to stop it because I could not take the chance that some member of the tour group might have seen me on a show and would recognize me. Since I often had to share rooms with other women you can picture the consternation that recognition would have caused.

Fortunately there are many other individuals now in all parts of the country who have followed me and appeared on various TV and radio shows to spread the word. Since two of the most effective and experienced performers this way are in our audience today and because they have done such a good job of carrying the word to the public on many occasions and many shows I think they should be acknowledged. I refer, of course, to Naomi and Eve whom most of you know. This is not to overlook the many others who have appeared, but with the exception of Ariadne of the Outreach Institute and Carol Beecroft of Tri Ess, and Betty Ann of 'Our Sorority', I don't know the names of most of them. But we all owe a debt to any of our sisters who will do this since appearances where they can be seen, be questioned and have a chance to present themselves as intelligent, friendly, and non-threatening individuals are one of the few ways open to us to make our position known to the general public. I salute all those who have been brave enough to do this and I hope many more of you will in the future.

I think I can take a little credit for educating a number of professional people through lectures given to various medical school classes, regular university classes and private organizations as well as through presenting papers to professional societies and publishing in professional journals. Of recent years I have been joined in this endeavor by several others, two which come to mind are Ariadne and Dr. Roger Peo. There are probably others that I don't know about and thus can't acknowledge but whose efforts we should all appreciate.

I can't leave this review of where we are at the moment without a word about my research surveys to which many of you have contributed. The first was a survey of 504 cases of transvestism and I presented it to the American Psychiatric Convention in Honolulu in 1965 and it was subsequently published in the Psychological Reports in 1972 in conjunction with Dr. Bentler of UCLA. The current project has by now been responded to by over 700 of our sisters and is in the process of being computerized by my collaborator, a PhD Candidate at the U. of New York. This is a terribly long job when you consider that there were 52 questions and on average about 5 parts to each so 5 X 52 X 700 = about 180,000 entries. So that accounts for the fact that the results will not be available for perhaps another year. But when they are they will be submitted to both Transvestia and Tapestry for publication as well as some professional journal. The large number of responses should make a real contribution to professional knowledge of the subject. Well so much for the past and present. There are probably areas and contributors that I have overlooked and no offense is intended by such oversights. There are lots of things I don't know and others that I don't remember.

But the main thrust of this convention is the future. Where do we g^ from here? Do we just keep struggling along as we have for the last 27 years with a few public activities, a few publications and a bunch of widely scattered social groups none of which

have any real goals individually or collectively? Or, alternatively, do you come to see the activity of cross-dressing and those who practice it as something more than just a kind of weird behavior on the part of some isolated and in some way abnormal individuals? This has been the situation throughout history. But history is a process of building up some aspect of human life or social behavior little by little until a situation comes to pass in which the slow quantitative change relatively suddenly develops a qualitative change. This change of quantity into quality is a philosophical proposition which occurs over and over again in both nature and human relations. My reason for bringing it up in the present connection is that I think our 'movement' if you will permit the term, is ready to undergo such a change. But the movement made is up to you, the individuals, so that for the movement to change, you the individuals have to change. Individual drops of water do not move but when many come together in one place the pool starts to move. That is what we are doing at this convention. The pool is made up of many drops--each of you--so that for the pool to start to flow, to become a 'movement' you individual drops have to move.

Now I am not suggesting that you change your way of living. I neither want you to suddenly go down to the office in heels and a chiffon formal or to tell all the neighbors, relatives, etc. No, I don't want you to change what you do, I just want you change what you THINK! After all, there is an old saying--"As a man thinketh, so is he." so If I can change your thinking, I will change you. "So what do I have to do?" you ask. It's easy! All you have to do is to stop thinking of yourself and other cross-dressers as kind of kookie, as something of an oddball because you do something most other men neither do nor understand, or as a sort of psychological and medical curiosity. All of us have entertained these and similar ideas in the past, and many still do. "But the times they are a-changin'" so the song says, and it is time that we cease looking upon the act of cross-dressing in these negative ways. "Well what other ways are there?" you ask.

Every one of you is well acquainted with the idea of women's liberation and I expect that most of you support and some of you are members of the National Organization of Women. But few men or women have stopped to consider that men need liberation even more than women, but they don't know it because being the ruling class it never occurs to them that there is any better place to be than where they are--the nobles of society. With women having been the peasants of society and having served the nobles for thousands of years the possibility of their wanting to change their status is both reasonable and clear. But if you are born a noble how can you improve on that? What is better is to be a free noble and not one bound to a centuries-old set of behaviors, expectations, requirements and life styles that prevent men from ever realizing a lot of their own potentials. Yes, men need liberation but not in the same way as women. Women have needed liberation <u>TO</u>, that is, the freedom to do the kind of work that interests them, of becoming a professional person like a doctor, a lawyer, or a scientist, or to go into politics and government at local, state and federal levels. They needed to learn how to stand on their own feet, make something of themselves and to be independent persons, not appendages to some male, father, brother, husband, etc. And those possibilities have largely been achieved.

But men already have these things. Men need liberation <u>FROM</u>, not TO. They need escape from the conceptions of manliness as one who is supposed to know about all manner of things, who is able to handle most any situation, who is there to comfort others not as strong as he is, to provide a shoulder to cry on and an encouraging pat on the back and words of cheer. He is expected to always be strong, be capable of handling whatever may arise and to be a leader. If he falls too far behind his peers in these ways he is regarded as a wimp or a

panty waist by other men and his own self esteem drops proportionately. So it's liberation FROM these expectations that men need. If such liberation should be achieved some day men would be able to be and do what they felt like being and doing and not what society or other men tried to get them to be. This would be reflected in their work, their attitudes toward other, the kind of degree of expectations that would show up in independence of behavior, interests and dress. A society composed of both liberated women AND liberated men would indeed be a remarkable place to live.

Well that's all very nice, you say, but what has it got to do with us? Answer--Everything, because as cross-dressers you are already well on the way toward that goal. Any man who is held captive by others or by ideas and customs has enemies, namely his captors, masters and concepts. Thus in the drive to live up to society's expectations of masculinity there is one big enemy, one's own femininity. This is any man's greatest enemy because it is diametrically opposed to the masculinity that he is expected to feel and manifest to others. Thus ever since a boy was called a sissy himself or watched what happened to some other boy who was so labeled he has made a great effort never to let that happen again. This leads either to isolation out of fear, going through life in frustration and anger with accompanying physiological symptoms of ulcers, heart attacks, and other conditions, or at the extreme the development of the over-compensating attitude we call machoism where by making enough noise, attracting enough attention, doing enough daring and possibly destructive or criminal things a man 'proves' that he is a 'real' man.

The result is that for most men their biggest enemy is their own inner femininity because its discovery would destroy them in the eyes of other men. It is well known that men do not develop physically close relationships with other men as women do with other women. Men do not show emotions such as hurt, grief, fear, or tenderness lest such manifestations shall be taken as a sign of weakness--read femininity. Thus men always keep other men at a physical and psychological distance just as a moat around a castle keeps the enemy out. This is done because should the invader get inside the moat he might destroy the castle's owner. Should another man manage to penetrate a man's psychological defenses he might, just might discover something about that man which could be interpreted as not sufficiently masculine, which is to say, somewhat feminine. That information in the hands of another man would about destroy the victim's self esteem. You all understand what I'm talking about because you have gone to great lengths to keep your cross-dressing secret from brother, father, coach, boss, and friends lest they decide that you were indeed too feminine and not a REAL MAN. Have you ever reflected on the fact that you can hold hands, hug or give a hello or goodbye kiss to another CD if you were both dressed, whereas you would not think of doing the same thing if you were both dressed in men's clothes? That is because you have escaped FROM those masculine expectations and requirements when you are dressed as a woman. But unknowingly you behave that way when dressed because you CAN behave that way. It's a touch of freedom.

Well where does this leave us as far as the future of cross-dressers is concerned? It leaves me with the feeling that I want to get all of you to see yourselves in a different light; not on the defensive and apologetic side concerning your feminine interests, but on the aggressive, proud and self-confident side. And why not? Cross-dressers of whatever persuasion, gay or straight, TVs, TGs, or TSs are in point of fact the very vanguard of Mens' Liberation. Why? Because we have faced up to that enemy, our own inner femininity that frightens so many men. My personal comment about myself is, "I have met the enemy and SHE is ME." All of us have met this erstwhile enemy that so concerns other men and we have made a degree of peace with her. We have given her real time existence

and 3-dimensional reality and we enjoy her when she is present. In this process we have to a degree and for the time being literally been liberated FROM all that masculinity that so encumbers the lives of other men and our lives when our femme-self is not present.

So if we can begin to see our activity in the positive light of being a liberation movement that all men will someday enjoy and that we are simply first in the field we can see ourselves as pointing the way to others. Now let me hastily make a statement before you misinterpret the above. I am definitely NOT saying that what we do, namely wearing dresses, heels and makeup should be done by all other men. That is not it at all. It is merely the technique that we have developed to contend with the repression that society puts on us to conform. However, we sometimes place more importance on the clothing than is warranted. Clothing, besides keeping the wearer both warm and modest is only a kind of admission ticket to a certain way of life. Women's clothing is a means to an end, not an end in itself. To most cross-dressers, whether they know it or not, the feminine clothing simply gets them out of jail so that they can, for a limited time, be the kind of person they cannot be the rest of the time. Ideal liberation for both men and women is not to become women or men respectively, but to achieve the right to express and enjoy any of the various ways people can react to life without having to deal with the label of 'masculine' or 'feminine'.

Merissa has suggested that we need to become a real community and I agree. A community is a group of people with common interests, common goals and some consensus on how to achieve them. In the past we have been just a disorganized group of people with common interests all right, but not common goals because we have not taken the trouble to think beyond ourselves. We have enjoyed our pleasures and suffered our guilts on a personal level, never really asking why there are so many others with the same interests and the same fears and guilts. We are a community without really knowing it. What we really need to do to become a true community is to realize that: A) each of us is one of a large number, B) that both the pleasures and the pains are shared with others, and C) that we all have a common opponent--the social idea that men should not try to become whole human beings by developing their YINS as well as their YANGS, to use the Chinese terms, but rather should be satisfied to remain only half humans--nobles who live in their castles on the cold but stimulating mountain tops--never to enjoy the flowers and the warmth of the meadows below.

I see this convention as a kind of collimating lens--one that receives light coming in from many directions and putting it out all going in one direction. That is, it makes all beams parallel. We come to this convention not only from all geographic directions but from many different psychological directions too. We are of various persuasions regarding our dressing, some among us are gay, most are just straight TVs, a few of us are transgenderists and some are post operative transsexuals. Naturally the views of these various groups are very diverse and each of us is primarily concerned about the meaning and importance of cross-dressing to our own selves and our own group. This means that each group resents a different picture to society and society is therefore confused. A society that is confused and doesn't quite understand something will react negatively to it in order to protect its own values which it does understand.

The various types of people that make up our sub-culture should, therefore, recognize that we have a common opponent and that we would all be better off if we could present a common front to society in the hope that it could learn to understand us, hopefully to accept us, but as a minimum, to just let us do our thing. But to bring this about we have to stop confusing society with multiple presentations and differing explanations

which induce society's negative reactions. To do this we have to find the common denominator between gay and straight CDs, and between full-time TGs and pre- and post-op TSs. In short, we have to markedly reduce the internal strife and polarization between the various types of CDs and like to the collimated beam of laser light , all of us face in the same direction and realize that the real antagonist is not each other but social ignorance, misunderstanding and opposition. We have to find what we all have in common and present this to society in such a way as to educate its ignorance, provide a rationale for its understanding of our cross-dressing and thereby undermine its opposition.

From where I sit it no longer seems of vital importance whether you are gay or straight, that is a personal decision basically unrelated to dressing. It isn't really important whether you dress intermittently according to desire and opportunity, as most of you do, or whether you live full time as I and some others do, nor is it important whether you plan on or have achieved sex reassignment surgery. The common thread running through all these life styles is the need and desire to express and experience one's own self-concept and total potential. In doing so we can become both better and more complete human beings.

Once we have a common understanding of what we are accomplishing when we dress we can accept a common goal which is to make society understand that there is a need in our society for people to be free and to be complete. This does not mean just political freedom or racial freedom but social freedom--the freedom to express whatever is part of oneself as long as other people's rights and freedoms are not trod upon in the process. Gender as an outgrowth of sex and the division of labor in life's tasks, served a useful purpose for past generations. But under modern economic and social conditions with modern knowledge and modern understanding of ourselves and the world we live in, gender is pretty much an anachronism. Sexual differences of anatomy, physiology and psychology will remain, of course, but distinctions of social expectation, requirements and limitations as to life styles, interests, talents, dress and occupations will slowly disappear. This is already visible in the younger set. If you were an 18 year old TV today how would you dress to satisfy your desire to be like a girl? About all you could do would be to wear two earrings instead of one like the boys do. Young women of today wear little makeup or jewelry and many of them have boyish haircuts. They dress, act, drink, smoke, swear and give you the finger if they get angry at you just like the boys do. About the only differences left are those based on anatomy, boys wear jockstraps and girls wear bras.

So, to conclude these remarks, I'd like to see each of you leave this convention and start your own personal tomorrow with a new outlook on your cross-dressing. Namely that it is not a kinky behavior, that it is not sick, that in itself it is not an indicator of sexual partner preference, but rather, that cross-dressing is merely a means of your achieving a condition of more complete 'human-ness'. Be proud of the fact that you are in fact one cut ABOVE other men, not BELOW them, by virtue of having discovered the other side of yourself. You ARE one of the leaders of Mens' Liberation because you too have met the enemy, made a degree of peace with her, given her real life and brought her to this gathering. And as I look out over this crowd of "enemies" I hope I am looking at the future commanders of the real war--the war to achieve full human status for both men and women. Remember! If you can imagine something, it is human, if something is possible, it is human, if it is desirable and satisfying, it is human, if it is enjoyable and fulfilling, it is human, and if it indeed IS human it ought to be available to all humans regardless of their sex.

Having made that peace with your own 'enemy' you have more freedom to interact with other people and problems because you now have a handle

on both extremes of human nature. You understand the active and the passive, the assertive and the receptive, you have the outer strength to act if the situation warrants it and the inner strength to let the situation pass you by, if that is a more appropriate response. You know from personal experience what it is like to be a man and what the benefits and privileges of being a woman are, and you are able to select whichever pattern you wish at a given time. Moreover, you are beginning to understand that your clothing at the time really has little to do with it. A liberated human whether in pants or skirts has a choice between an assertive, attacking reaction to a situation or a passive, accepting and a let-it-go-by reaction. And it makes no difference what the sex of the human being is.

So go forth from this convention to your own personal futures, love your 'enemy' as yourself (which she really is) and do your part in our common effort to liberate not only ourselves but all other men.

- END -

SPECIAL FEATURE:

(Dr. Peo, Director of 'Androgyny Unlimited' in Poughkeepsie NY, delivered this keynote speech at I.F.G.E.'s first annual 'Coming Together' convention in Chicago, March 6, 1987.)

WORKING TOGETHER
Keynote speech by Dr. Roger Peo

Writing this speech has allowed me to clarify some ideas that have been rattling around in my head for the past few years. Images of meetings of cross-dressing groups, clients struggling with problems, sexuality conferences, workshops and meetings -- all needed expression. This sub-culture is complex. Problems faced by you, its members, are in some ways unique because your needs often go against the standards of society. For you to survive and progress you have to work together. Examining this concept let me to see there are several different groups that are a part of this community. Working together requires teamwork within the sub-groups and between them.

What does 'teamwork' mean anyway? When looking it up I found it was associated with words like 'synergy', 'harmony', 'solidarity', 'mutual assistance', 'common endeavor', and 'collaboration'. So, working together has the flavor of harmony which requires trust. Where teamwork can break down is in the area of leadership. Every team has a captain (captainess??) whose main task is to focus the energies of the rest of the team toward a common goal. When the leader is respected by all the members, things move smoothly. If the leader is arbitrary or plays favorites things can go awry. Thus leadership is a tricky business.

In this room are two fine examples of leaders -- Virginia Prince and Merissa Lynn. How did they do it? First, they are very dedicated to their goals. They have another trait --- the willingness to put in extremely long hours to make things happen. Lastly, they have the ability to get different

people to work together. That last characteristic is perhaps the most difficult to define. Part of it is honesty. While you might not agree with their ideas, you at least know where they stand. Also they are fair and willing to listen to other points of view. They were able to make things happen that have brought us here today. Tomorrow we will hear Virginia talk about where you have been and speculate on where you might be going. Merissa is a significant influence on your future. This convention was her idea. It was her energy that made it happen -- not alone -- for many others have had a part in it. But without her vision I suspect we would not be here today.

When people work together, there is often a hidden effect. The result can be greater than any individual could have achieved alone. I am sure that all of you have experienced this effect when talking with other people. One person says something which triggers an idea or association for you. You offer a comment that stirs someone else's thinking. soon the ideas are flowing. The result can be an idea or activity that would not have happened if you had not joined together. By taking an energetic part in an organization's activities you lend support which makes the results greater than they would have been otherwise -- the synergistic effect. While it takes a leader such as Merissa or Virginia to focus your efforts, it takes all of you to make it work.

There is a 'flip side' to this group action. Some of you probably know that I have two careers. In my other career I work in a large corporation. Recently I had an assignment that required several different groups to work together. There was no formal structure to force us to work together, only agreements between the people involved. In the beginning of the project the engineering group had a good spirit of teamwork. We added a purchasing agent who had the attitude that no one in engineering should ever be trusted. Her attitude of mistrust caused endless delays and re-work. No matter what I said or how cooperative

Roger Peo, PhD, Chicago 1987

we were, her distrust persisted. When she was replaced by another woman who worked with us in a spirit of cooperation, the project moved and we made our goals. This experience taught me again that a single person can make a difference -- either good or bad -- in how a group activity will turn out. Obvious, perhaps, but something you can not afford to lose sight of.

Gender issues are often very isolating experiences. Because such behavior is disapproved of by society, you are often forced to deal with your feeling by yourself. Somewhere in each of your lives you found out about a group that dealt with the issues that you thought you alone faced. At last, a breath of fresh air! You went to a meeting and met others who were facing similar feelings. By talking to them you were able to feel better about yourself. Did you ever think about that organization that made it possible for you to have that life altering experience? If you have never worked in an organization, you have no idea of the amount of detail that goes into making it a successful operation. Mailings, dues collection, meeting lo-

cation reservations, newsletter, refreshments, bills to be paid, etc., in short a lot of work. Most of it is unseen by the attendees at the meetings. So, your support is needed in the trivial and mundane as well as in the popular work that has to be done.

There are other aspects of working together. As I mentioned before, transgender needs often create isolation. In this isolation one can begin to feel unique. No one else has the same needs as I have..... Sometimes this feeling of uniqueness causes a fragmentation of your own ranks. Transvestites, cross-dressers, male-to-female transsexuals, female-to-male transsexuals, drag queens, female impersonators --- you do have different needs, but you have many common needs as well. Other sexual minorities such as the Gay Community have dealt with the same kind of societal intolerance that you experience. They have built organizations and handled the details of running them. You can learn from their experiences, for they have been there. In addition, you can perhaps form alliances with them for mutual benefit. To ignore these areas of common needs costs you, for here again you can learn from and help each other.

Another group with whom you have to work are your spouses or significant others. From my own observations I know that maintaining a significant relationship with another person takes a lot of effort. This is true even when there are no unusual complications. Pressures of jobs, children and money create stresses on any relationship. Sexual issues invade the most intimate area of a person's life. Our society does not provide healthy sexual images and does not encourage honest discussion of sexual feelings. Even the socially acceptable forms of sexual expression are not discussed. Thus, many people grow up with an inadequate understanding of the sexual forces on their lives.

We also have a double standard in our society. Often this means that women are treated quite shabbily and are 'sheltered' from sexual issues -- except on 'how to please your man' and 'how to raise children'. This isolation has serious consequences for us all. When it comes to dealing with a transgender issue in a relationship a woman is often ill-equipped to understand what is happening to her and to her partner. If she is wrestling with transsexual feelings herself she often finds nowhere to turn. In a relationship, working together carries special significance. It hinges on two things -- good communication and the willingness to be sensitive to the other person's needs. Without these traits any significant relationship will have problems.

Yet another aspect of working together is the relationship between the helping professions and the transgender community. I personally have experience the anger of clients who simply see me as an impediment to their progress. As a therapist I strive to form a working partnership with each of my clients, for without that partnership any therapy as a poor chance of being successful. Key components in forming that partnership are honesty and openness. My goal is to have any client leave my office feeling better than when they arrived. For this partnership to work they have to trust me. It is hard for someone to trust another person when they are sharing their intimate feelings in a struggle to understand their situation. How I achieve this trust varies with each person I see. When I feel we are not functioning in harmony then we stop and work on what is getting in the way. The bottom line, however, remains the same. I answer their questions and share my observations with them. I treat them as human beings who have worth.

A goal of this conference is to tell society about yourselves. Why do you want to do this? The reason you say society needs more information about transgender behaviors is so you will be accepted. What <u>does</u> acceptance mean? In the most ambitious sense it means that a person can dress and act in any manner without being censured. I believe that such a utopia will never come about. Our culture runs on the ability to differentiate the sex roles. Until men and women deal rationally with sex roles, there is little hope

that activities which blur such roles will ever be acceptable. You can, however, take a conservative view. If you simply want to tell people why you feel as you do and that what you feel is not harmful to them, you may be able to reduce criticism of your behavior.

The more difficult questions to answer are, "What is in it for society? and, Does society really want to know about you?" Assuming that society wants to hear more about you, how should you go about giving them information? I have been involved in sex education for more than 10 years. This involvement makes me very aware of how uninformed and unaware most people are about basic sexual behaviors and feelings. As a society we are described as sex-negative. This negativity exists in spite of the blatant appearance of sexual messages in advertising and the media. Before you can explain your special situation, you have to support general sex education which will provide the foundation for understanding who you are. Some of that sex education is formal. You support or deny it when you vote for school board members, members of Congress, legislators, etc. They, in large measure, control whether or not sex education will happen. Other sex education goes on in our everyday interactions with family, friends, and co-workers. Behaving in chauvinistic ways, stereotyping men and women, denying that sexual expression can have a positive influence in a person's life are all limiting activities. In short, each of us is a sex educator whether we like it or not, for our behaviors educate those around us.

A part of this conference is aimed at helping you move forward -- to establish new goals. One way you might gain some social acceptance is volunteerism. There are a tremendous number of worthy social activities that desperately need help. Now I am not advocating that you do this volunteer work while cross-dressed (unless that is your normal state). However, there are always fund raising activities and hours of work required to keep any organization functioning. Perhaps you could associate yourselves with such an activity and provide assistance, even from afar. By working on socially approved activities you can show yourselves to be responsible citizens and not people who are just out for themselves. I realize that this suggestion has the potential for diluting your efforts. It is hard enough to find people who will work on your own organization's needs. Yet without some outreach to the general community you will continue to be isolated and misunderstood.

One area in which you have been very cooperative is sex research. In the past few years your sub-culture has been the subject of many investigations. There is, however, more to do. In some recent correspondence with Carol Beecroft of Tri-Ess she mentioned the need to have a more global understanding of the transgender culture. We do not really know just how many people have these feeling because they are considered socially unacceptable. Thus many people who have these feeling keep them hidden away because exposure can mean social and perhaps economic ruin. Carol felt there might be some way to take a national survey by enlisting the help of Ann Landers, Dear Abby and others. Further projects still need to be devised.

In conclusion, you have come a long way. This has been due in no small part to leaders such as Merissa, Virginia, and Carol. It has also been because of you and your willingness to work together for a common goal. Most

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of you who are here in this room today are part of a sexual minority. As such, your needs are neither understood nor accepted by society at large. Drug addiction, alcoholism and homosexuality are behaviors that define other minorities. These other groups have been able to move beyond that stigma and gain support for their members. Today they appear to have somewhat more tolerance from society than you do. We are bombarded by fundamental religious perspective and threatened by the AIDS epidemic. The result is that our society is undergoing some significant changes. Sexual minorities have always been looked at askance even in the most liberal of times. As society becomes more conservative you will probably experience even more intolerance. Whether or not you will ever be accepted by society is of little importance. The important thing is to work together to support each other, making each of your lives a little richer while reaching out to help others and who have not yet had the freeing experiences you have had.

Thank you.

- END -

SPECIAL FEATURE:

(Edited from a booklet prepared by a group of partners of transvestites. The booklet started as a dream of a small group of caring partners at Fantasia Fair, a convention held each Fall in Provincetown Massachusetts. Questionnaires were distributed, and a year later the booklet became reality. Each partner who responded, whether heterosexual or homosexual, was in a relationship with a cross-dresser, some in marriages of 25 years or more. The partners were from different locations across the United States, and from varied backgrounds and religions. Many were in support groups, and some were in therapy with humanistic professionals.)

HE / SHE, WE and THEY
PARTNERS OF TRANSVESTITES

There are a great many transvestites in the world today. We, the partners of cross-dressers, felt the need to put together this booklet and share with you our thoughts and feelings. And we want to let you know, "YOU ARE NOT ALONE!"

After first finding out our spouses were cross-dressers, we experienced a multitude of emotions. We hope that this booklet will help you to understand and deal with the revelation that you are married to or involved with a cross-dresser.

Like most things in life that do not follow that straight and narrow way of thinking, when first informed of your spouse's transvestism, you experienced shock and disbelief. The fact that a huge secret had been kept from you by someone close to you, someone you may even have known for many years, had a profound emotional impact on you. From the start you may have denied it, not only to yourself but also to your spouse, but inside you knew it was true. You may have continued to deny the fact and began to feel a certain sense of guilt, asking yourself, "Where did I go wrong?" or, "What could I

have done differently?". But remember, you were not to blame! This was something your spouse had been dealing with for a long time.

At times you may have felt threatened by the fact your spouse was now exposing a feminine side of himself and that he may not be the person you always thought he was. You may also have experienced a great deal of fear and apprehension, the most fearful being the unknowns and your naivete about cross-dressing. The quest to know and learn more is a long trek on which you travel many miles of rough road, and, every once in a while, YOU CRY!

* * * * *

We first want to deal with emotions, listing many of the feelings that partners expressed about their spouse's cross-dressing when answering our questionnaire: "Stress, negativism, compulsion, love, fear, threat, anger, acceptance, uncertainty, rejection, and understanding."

Marriages are affected in that at first you feel alone. Transvestism puts stress on the marriage, but when we can find other couples in the same circumstance and can share feelings with them, we begin to see we are not the only ones, and with help we can strengthen our relationship. Some partners do not and will never accept transvestism, and in these cases the marriage is destroyed.

Feelings are fairly divided on the question of telling our children. Some children accept it and others do not, which is typical of society in general. Most couples who have told their children have waited until the children were at an age when they could make an attempt at understanding the phenomena. There is a concern, however, regarding post-mortem discovery, when children do not know. One couple stated, "We've informed a very close friend where in the event of our demise, that friend will come into our home and dispose of that part of our life." Another suggestion might be to leave a letter, including reference materials for your family, explaining this lifestyle. Each individual couple will have to come to it's own conclusion on this question. Each family presents a unique situation.

Most partners felt that cross-dressing does have an affect on their sex lives. It weakens it. Their sex life has become more inactive. it is a turn-off, especially the shaven body or the lingerie. The cross-dresser spends time, thought, energy and money on his need and less of himself goes into their sex life. Some partners were not disturbed and felt he was a husband first and a cross-dresser second, that a decrease in sexual activity is part of the aging process and not a result of the transvestism.

If you have confidence in yourself as a woman, his cross-dressing may not be a threat to your femininity. You might be a role model for your spouse, not only with the clothes and the makeup but also with the gestures and mannerisms that help to create the image of the total woman. Usually you are not the role model he desires. "Threatened, no... but I sure would like to have some of his clothes!".

Discovery, exposure, becoming publicly known! Not an easy situation to handle. Very few, if any, partners when presented with this question could give a positive answer. The majority of partners experienced feelings ranging from simple reluctance to mortification. The thought of family and friends discovering the secret is absolutely frightening. The fears of ridicule and rejection could become reality. This is something that should be thoroughly discussed between the cross-dresser and his partner and is not to be taken lightly.

When questioned about their feelings and reactions to their spouse's cross-dressing, many partners seemed to answer in the same way. The majority of partners said they accepted it and were comfortable with it. However, no matter how much they feel they accept or how comfortable they may be, there is always another shock or surprise somewhere down the road. some

partners stated that though it bothered them, they knew their spouses were happy and content. This made it acceptable, although they would prefer he took up stamp collecting.

When partners were questioned if they felt their spouses would always want to do more, the general consensus was "yes!" Whether your spouse is just coming out of the closet or has been out for a long time, this is quite unpredictable. Some partners felt that allowing their spouses to dress lessened the need, while others felt, given the opportunity, their spouses would dress more often.

Present feelings concerning the spouse's transvestism were quite varied. One partner stated that she felt more understanding, more fulfillment and was sharing his entire life, while another blocked out stress and had to deal with negative feelings. A majority of the questioned partners said it was something that would always be a part of their lives and something that must be dealt with if they were to remain together. One partner was annoyed by it, tired of it and in constant fear of discovery.

"Helps knowing you're not the only tin can in the dump!". At first many partners are fearful of speaking with anyone other than their spouse. However, ninety-nine percent of the partners in our survey gave similar answers when questioned about communicating with other partners, cross-dressers, or couples, whether at group meetings, weekends away, trips, or in the privacy of one another's homes. Socializing is enlightening and very helpful. Problems seem smaller and less stressful, a big plus is the friendship and the common bond formed with others. The release of tension from keeping the secret provides great relief.

Facing any new situation in life is always a learning and growing experience. We all have a built-in maturing feature, and the more we learn and the more we know the less we fear. Cross-dressing is no different!

It is significant to note the survey of the answers to questions concerning the conflicts that arise between cross-dressers and their partners indicates one solution. the theme repeats itself:

"Talk it out."
"Discuss."
"Talk, talk, listen, listen."
"Get priorities agreed upon."
"Negotiate."
"Respect each other's feelings."
"Keep a communication line open."
"We talk, we argue, sometimes we yell, but we listen."
"Try to work out a compromise we can be reasonably happy with."

And they conclude:

"We need to keep working on it."

All Agreed that they do tell their spouses of the negative reactions to aspects of his cross-dressing, but they try to balance these with positive input. Much of the negativity occurred due to the partner's fear of the spouse losing control. The overwhelming fear is of careless self betrayal (perhaps deliberate with some) through loose talk or forgetting to remove the femme paraphernalia. This could be compounded with the increasing desire to dress or participate in cross-dressing activities. A need to expand horizons worries some. Others attributed their negative reactions to not wanting either of them to experience the possible ridicule and rejection that might follow discovery. Also touched upon was the hovering shadow of transsexual yearnings. There were indications that these fears lessen with time and understanding, yet some of the partners denied ever having such concerns at all.

Most partners interviewed encouraged the socializing with other transvestites, although a few did not. some invite cross-dressers to their homes, while others encourage spouses to attend meetings and go to weekend or week long events. One fear expressed was that the cross-dressers might want to become more public in their activities, thereby flirting with discovery, but almost all partners recognized the need of a cross-dresser to share and gain the support of others.

Many cross-dressers are considerate, sensitive people who realize that limits must exist. Most are very supportive and understanding of the partner's limits. Some become more sympathetic after meeting with other couples and will give up their wishes to accommodate the partner's requests, but are resentful in their disappointment. a few have not learned to manage their fantasies, but stock up on "500 pairs of high heeled shoes" and "leave their nighties behind the bathroom door." One wife says, "It varies...sometimes I am more tolerant and sometimes he is less demanding."

When questioned as to how partners can tactfully influence the spouse's wardrobe, many replied that they are consulted about wardrobe and ensemble choices and that the cross-dresser seems to be very receptive to suggestion. A tactful way to effect a change of taste is offered by one partner who suggests, "pointing out fashion trends and complimenting him on his appearance." Another recommends, "suggesting not criticizing." Although many cross-dressers have good taste, some lean toward the "vulgar and sexy," but will eventually learn by experiment or experience and are pleased with their partner's interest. A few report that they have complete control over the spouse's wardrobe, while most say they have some input.

When asked if the partners shopped for their cross-dressing spouse or with him, we got an array of responses. "Shopping together can be a great deal of fun for both of you." In some instances partners contribute by sewing, "thus insuring a good fit and keeping the cost of the compulsion down." Sometimes the cross-dresser becomes an excellent "seamstress" and can make his partner's clothes. All partners who responded to the questionnaire agreed that whom to tell, whether it be no one, the family, or a few friends, is an ongoing process of evaluation and it is a 'couple' decision.

QUOTES WORTH REMEMBERING:

"My spouse is the same person whether he is dressed female or male."

"Cross-dressing is a give and take situation. The transvestite cannot be selfish to the point that he does not care about his loved ones."

"In public, I can help people to be more open, understanding and informed. In private, I can be grateful that a wonderful human being has chosen to love me, and to share his weaknesses and fears with me, so that I am freed to share mine with him."

- END -

(*** Mrs. Marilyn Frank helped coordinate this booklet. She also was the coordinator for the Wives/-Significant-Others program at the IFGE Convention in Chicago, and will be working with that program again next year. Marilyn has taken an active role in working on behalf of wives and SO's, and invites others to do the same. If you would like more information about this booklet, or would like to help, write or call: Mrs. Marilyn Frank, P.O. Box 9192, Morristown, NJ 07960 201--663-0772)

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SPECIAL FEATURE:

(The following article written by Mariette Pathy Allen first appeared in an expurgated version entitled 'A Man's Prerogative' in 'The Chicago Reader'. That article was intended to compliment the 4th annual 'Be All You Can Be' Convention which was being held in Chicago.

Mariette, a professional photographer living in New York City, has been working with the TV/TS Community for over eight years, and is a friend. She has shown her work in galleries and private showings throughout North America and Europe, and just recently returning from a huge showing entitled 'The Beholder's Eye: Men as Women' in Milan Italy. Mariette Pathy Allen, 241 East 17th St., NYC, NY 10003 212-460-5880)

THE WOMAN WHO LIVES INSIDE: PORTRAITS OF MEN AS WOMEN

by Mariette Pathy Allen

In New Orleans eight years ago, on the last day of Mardi Gras, I came down to breakfast at my hotel where I encountered a room full of men wearing dresses. My first thought was, as is most people's when they first see a man wearing a dress, I was seeing a fringe group of homosexual men who were interested in attracting other men, or performing on stage. I had no idea that I had just stumbled upon a phenomenon involving millions of Americans living in a vast hidden world of gender exploration. As a professional photographer, I had found a project.

Since that first encounter I have learned that cross-dressing has, in fact, very little to do with sex or performing. Beyond the small minority of homosexual cross-dressers and stage performers is a vast, often isolated and perplexed majority of predominantly heterosexual cross-dressers who wear women's clothes for reasons such as full personality expression, and peace of mind. For the last eight years I have been photographing these men in their female attire, and recording their stories.

In pursuit of these photographs and stories I have attended many cross-dresser's functions such as Fantasia Fair, the P-town Spring Outing, and 'Be All'. At these conventions men experience the freedom to look and act like their images of women, and slowly, sometimes with great fear and occasional flashes of pride, they come out of their dual-wardrobe closets. For a few hours, or a few days, the "stiff upper lip" is covered by lipstick. They become their own "better halves" with the help of feminine accessories, and find themselves able to laugh and cry, feel vulnerable and relaxed. It is even possible, in integrating the masculine and the feminine, for cross-dressers to emerge with a sense of completeness, of being unfragmented human beings. Best of all, for the duration of their time together, the macho punch on the arm gives way to a gentle hug.

While clinging to stereotypical images of femininity: high heels, long helpless-making nails, and suffocating undergarments - items that are an anathema to me and to many feminists - cross-dressers simultaneously, possibly without knowing it, make dramatically clear, as no other group of men could, the pain and danger inherent in the traditional masculine power role. In a

spirit of relief, close to euphoria, they step "down" from the seat of power to experience love, both narcissistic and utopian. For a moment, wrapped in softer garments, they feel at peace with the world.

(Now, if only Reagan and Gorbachev would wear dresses to the next summit meeting...)

* * * *

ED

& ED AS "LINDA"

A native of Brooklyn, Ed used to work in city government. Now, on a leave of absence, he pampers 'linda', an extroverted character who is rapidly using up all the available closet space. Although 'Linda' can't appear in the neighborhood, 'she' is brought into Manhattan in suitcases by subway, ready to be assembled for a special party.

* * * *

NORMA AND CAROL

Mormons from the Southwest, grandparents, owners of a small office supply business, Norma and 'Carol' run Tri-Ess (The Society for the Second Self), a national organization for cross-dressers, a support group for wives and a substantial quarterly newsletter 'The Femme Mirror'.

A lifelong cross-dresser, Tom considers homosexuality "repugnant and abhorrent. However, I would vote for a homosexual president as long as he ran on a Republican ticket!"

While Norma, Carol, and I drove home from lunch, past farms and dairy herds, Carol observed, "I was never a macho type. I was always extremely sensitive. 'Carol' was always there. I just gave her clothing. I feel more fulfilled when I can wear the clothing. Then I can display femininity, be more passive, let others lead. You saw me

at the restaurant. I eat differently as 'Carol'. I bold it down as Tom. As 'Carol' I take my time, cut up everything... dainty."

* * * *

LINDA WITH GRANDSON WAYNE

Ben and Rebecca live in suburban New Jersey where they own a travel agency. Ben is active in the synagogue, the Town Planning Board and the Rotary Club. Rebecca runs the Temple Bingo game and 'Helpline' -- taking calls from people in need of support. Their three children are grown and married. Last year Rebecca told them of their father's cross-dressing, which they all accepted to varying degrees. David, their son, quipped, "Things were going so great for me in my life, that when Mom told me, I was kind of pleased. I needed a little twist." When David's son Wayne saw his grandfather as 'Linda' for the first time, he unblinkingly greeted him, "Hi, Pop-Pop!" "I guess there's no fooling kids," Ben sighed.

* * * *

VICKY WITH CORIE AND JULIA

'Vicky' performs the can-can with my children. They find her a comfortable, easy-going presence. As Kurt, this kind of cavorting just wouldn't happen.

* * * *

VANESSA

Forced into the role of a tough barrio kid in the small town in Texas

where she grew up, 'Vanessa' has a little more freedom now at 26. She plays the guitar and works as a data processor. This fall, her first time out of the closet, 'Vanessa' drove all the way from Texas to Provincetown, Mass. as her femme self. Like most cross-dressers, 'Vanessa' is alone with her secret. Until she came across an article on transvestism in 'Playboy', she didn't know that there are social organizations (like sororities) for cross-dressers throughout the United States.

* * * *

FELICITY

Fred started flying as a teenager, not long after the Wright brothers. Seventy-nine now, he continues to fly, often with his wife, Eleanor, a retired doctor. Felicity jokes, "It is hard being a woman, and I certainly would not wish to actually be one or to live as one full time. For one thing, I would have to put up with men, and alone would be horrid!"

The large photograph on the living room wall behind 'Felicity' was taken by Fred's father when Fred was five years old. It shows him with his mother, wearing the clothes of a little girl from across the street, right before had his hair cut short. "At the age of 12, during WW I, my main interest was, of course, airplanes, but I happened to come across those photos. They revived my memory of the event and irresistibly kindled my interest in cross-dressing, even though I had my first girlfriend at the time."

* * * *

CHRYSIS WITH MARY SUE

Happy Acres Trailer Park is on the outskirts of a small town in the Northwest. Beyond the fences surrounding the park cowboys ride over the hills, getting ready for the rodeo. Confined to the interior of the trailer when Joe becomes 'Chrysis', which is almost daily, not owning a car and being unable to afford the bus fare that would allow Mary Sue to go to nursery school, the park is both a home and a prison for the family. Joe, a Vietnam veteran, served a five year sentence for breaking into houses to steal women's clothes, is having trouble finding a job. His wife, Wanda, who just turned 19 and loves the outdoors, is hoping that someday she'll be able to go to the local community college and learn gardening. Wanda loves Joe and 'Chrysis'. Deeply hurt by circumstances in their lives, they relate as people who are there to take care of each other.

(*** In the last three issues of the Tapestry there has been an ongoing examination of religion, concentrating primarily on the Judeo-Christian tradition. The following is a continuation of that examination.)

(Edited from the NWGA Newsletter, published by the Northwest Gender Alliance, P.O. Box 4928, Portland, OR 97208-4928, 503-641-6736)

OTHER OLD TIME RELIGIONS

by Nancy A.

Lest you think Judeo-Christian works are the only things on the subject, I thought this month to tell you about how other cultures have handled the phenomenon of transvestism.

Of course every culture has people like us. In Indonesia, the 'ludruk' theater has operated since the thirteenth century, first appearing in written records in 1822. Similar theater performers are part of the cultural history of Japan, India, the Middle East, Polynesia, Classical Greece, and Medieval Europe, to name a few. To quote one author's description of a performance, "Draped in a beautiful batick sarong, her black hair elaborately styled, the singer sways sinuously across the stage. Bells at her ankle tinkle as she moves."

"She's just like a princess!", a man in the small Javanese theater whispers in awe. "I'd like to marry her!"

"Her face is as painted and impassive as a smiling doll's as she begins her childlike but provocative singing and dancing. To the people looking on, she is the epitome of feminine desirability." (James Peacock, Rites of Modernization)

These 'ludruk' performers may retain feminine identities offstage, even sometimes acquiring a husband, but the Javanese performer's appeal rests precisely on the fact that he is a man in masquerade. Some men want a fantasy, not a real woman. The ingenue character in 'ludruk' performances appears soft and docile, while the actual Javanese lower-class wife is likely to be tough and aggressive, ruling her husband with an iron hand. In retreat from such an overbearing wife, some Javanese men do occasionally fall passionately in love with the romantic illusion offered by the performer. However, the main attraction for the audience remains the performer's embodiment of sexual ambiguity - which fascinates the Javanese.

In our own Middle Ages, on the other hand, the man who dressed as a woman was thought of as an erotic sorcerer, who used a blasphemous feminine disguise in order to infiltrate convents and seduce the nuns. Only later did cross-dressing become identified in the public mind with male homosexuality.

The term 'transvestite' wasn't coined until 1910 by Magnus Hirschfeld, a contemporary of Freud. Today, none of the three types of Western cross-dressers (transvestite, transsexual, drag queen) has any sanctioned role in Western society. However, other cultures are different about this. Among the nomadic Turco-Mongol tribes of Siberia, for instance, men who don women's clothing are regarded as frightening and powerful creatures who have control over the supernatural. These men are the shamans, or witch doctors, of the community. Just as his appearance puts him between men and women, his role is as a mediator and healer who stands between man and the spirit world.

The male witch doctor in women's clothes can also be found in such widely separated places as Malaya, the Celebes Islands, Patagonia, the Aleutian Islands, and among the North American Indian tribes. The American versions most often appear in such warrior tribes as the Sioux and the Crow. The 'berdache' is the best-known example of such roles. The boy who did not want to become a warrior had only one other role available to him, as written about in Ruth Benedict's 'Pat-

terns in Culture' and as shown visibly in Dustin Hoffman's 'Little Big Man'. In some tribes, 'berdache' did go to war, but were allowed only to carry provisions or to use clubs. Once accepted as a 'berdache', however, a man could not change later.

But permanency is not always a feature of the male-living-as-female role. In Oman, a small Muslim country at the southern tip of the Arabian Peninsula, men can slip in and out of the role of 'xanith' as they wish, sometimes spending their youth as homosexual prostitutes and then abandoning that role in favor of marriage and family, only to return (in a few cases) to the youthful life-style in later years. This alteration is not considered at all strange. Although this person may retain various effeminate characteristics in speech and movement, he will be regarded as a normal male as long as he is able to perform sexually with his wife. To the Omanis, who seclude their women behind the walls of Purdah compounds, the definition of a man is quite simple: The active partner in sexual intercourse. The passive partner is automatically either a woman or a 'xanith'. Unni Wikan notes about the Omanis in her article, "Man Becomes Woman" in the anthropological journal 'Man', "It is the sexual act, not the sexual organs, which is constitutive of gender."

Unlike the 'berdache', who in effect changes into woman, the 'xanith' is regarded as a third sex. Under Islamic law he has all the rights of a man, he goes by a masculine name, and he accompanies men to the mosque for worship, but he does women's work in the household compounds and on festive occasions joins the women in singing and dancing. His appearance is ambiguous: he wears the man's long tunic, but tightly belted at the waist like a woman's; his hair is not long like a woman's, but of an intermediate length; he goes bare-headed, although both men and women cover their hair. Interestingly, he is legally prohibited from wearing women's clothes and can be imprisoned and flogged if he does so. (I guess it's not so great after all.)

Omani women are supposed to be pure and isolated in their homes. There can be no prostitutes. "Xanith' prostitutes are plentiful, cheap, and permitted by law. If a 'xanith' were to dress as a woman, however, he would no longer be preserving women's' purity since he would be sullying (defiling) their image in public. About one out of every fifty men in Oman is a public 'xanith'.

Things are far different in Tahiti, where men have no trouble living up to the easy-going standards of male behavior. Men's and women's lives are remarkably similar and Tahitian sexual mores, unlike those of Oman, are lenient, with no emphasis on female purity. But here the pattern is unique: each Tahitian village has one, and only one, 'mahu', a man who dresses as a woman. If the position of 'mahu' falls vacant, a replacement will appear. Two are not allowed. Like the Omanis, Tahitian men in this position may leave the job and marry. Although the villagers understand that the role of 'mahu' is God-given and men select themselves when the need arises, they take care to ensure that there will be

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no shortage of candidates. From an early age, certain young boys are gently encouraged toward the role by their families and neighbors, and the most suitable boy automatically becomes the new 'mahu', to his parents' great pride.

Why does Tahitian society have the 'mahu'? Robert Levy, in his book 'Tahitians: Mind and Experience in the Society Islands' hypothesizes that it is because there is only one 'mahu' per village. He serves as a symbolic marker. Since there is an absence of a strongly defined masculine self-image in Tahitian Society, men can use the 'mahu' as a way to tell their own role. The unconscious logic is "Since I am not the 'mahu', I must be a man."

I'm not sure if these examples tempt you to fly to Tahiti or Oman, or to try and convince a modern day Indian tribe you'd like to join as spokeswoman for the tribe in Washington, but at least you can see other societies' responses to a common phenomenon. Although we can't be as open as we would like, we can get out and help others understand and be more accepting. We have no clearly defined role, set rigidly in the society we live in, as do the others I have mentioned, so we have to make our own way.

- END -

THE LITTLE THINGS MEAN A LOT

by Wendy H. Reed (CA-0805)

In the quest for total femininity and passing, it is imperative that we 'ladies' be observant of genetic women and incorporate all the little things which make a woman attractive, special, and different. Subtle differences in how a man or a woman walks, gestures, sits, stands, eats, drinks, smokes, and moves are all vital things we must consider in passing.

Walking is very important and posture is a big part of it. A woman of style will move gracefully with an erect spine and head held high. I'm 6' tall but I don't try to slouch or shrug down. That doesn't make one look shorter, just awkward and unattractive. There are a lot of tall women out there - just look around. Tall or short, walk erect with pride and hold that lovely head high. In heels, tap heel down first and follow with the ball of the foot allowing the hips to sway naturally (without exaggerating). A man either ambles or charges ahead leading with the top of his body. A woman walks from the hips down. Walk straight ahead proudly and smoothly with a graceful flow allowing the arms to swing naturally. Men will make way for you normally except in very crowded situations. Children are another story... it's very un-ladylike to trip over a small child.

In sitting, men generally just plop down. A stylish woman will do it gracefully; slower, back still erect and head held high, slightly pushing the hips back to comfortably settle into the seat, and using both hands (if free) to sweep the skirt underneath. In crossing one's legs, a man will just throw his leg up to either an open or closed cross. A woman will more slowly slide one leg up the other, crossing her legs in a closed position, and then slant them several degrees to the side so they aren't straight up and down. Uncrossing the legs is a slower, sliding motion as well. Sit erect and proud - no slouching or chin in hand, it'll mess your makeup.

A stylish woman will gesture more smoothly and with a fluid grace. Pointing the finger while talking is a male trait. Women feel freer to touch a person while talking, slight casual touches to the other's hand or arm.

Drinking is another very sex-different activity. men gulp, women sip. Men clutch the glass or cup, women take it lightly. A light glass is held gracefully in the fingertips. A heavier cup or mug is held by the ear and studied with the tips of the thumb and middle finger of the other hand,

the other fingers spread and held away from the cup. At a bar, men take the straw out and drink, a lady sips through the straw. Bar treats and peanuts are gracefully picked one at a time with the thumb and forefinger tips. Laughter should be somewhat restrained, a roaring laugh is for 'Mr. Macho'. If a laugh naturally becomes more pronounced, delicately shield your mouth with your spread fingertips. After eating or drinking, casually check your lips and lightly touch up with a compact mirror. No major surgery here - if needed, excuse yourself and head for the ladies room.

Smoking can be a dead give away. It's a habit, so the way it is done is habitual. A man holds a cigarette any way he wants and draws on it like he's syphoning gas. A lady delicately holds it near the tips of her fore- and middle fingers, draws lightly through lips that appear to be kissing it, and exhales up and away through slightly parted lips. Oh, and ladies, leave that pack of Lucky's home. 100s and 120s are so much more chic. When your cigarette is being lit for you, lean forward slowly and feel free to steady his hand with your own. If a gentleman is not present, remember, a man strikes a match toward himself, a woman away from herself. When crushing a cigarette out, a man does just that. A lady will hold it in the tips of fingers and gingerly swirl it out almost playing with it. On the street, a man may flip it away, but a woman will hold it away from self, drop it lightly, and crush it out with the toe of her shoe.

All of these things take practice, practice that should take place at home. Modern technology has given us a fabulous tool to practice with - home video. Set the camera on a tripod and record yourself doing all these little things. Then play it back being highly critical of your walk, sitting, standing, gestures, etc. Look for minor mistakes. Keep doing it until it's second nature. Also, frequenting better stores, malls, and restaurants will give you an opportunity to critically observe women in action in public.

The little things are a large factor in passing effectively. Work at it, play with it, and enjoy the greater feeling of femininity it will give you. And when you feel it, you are it. Here's to the little things that mean so much.

- END -

THE MYSTIQUE OF MAKE-UP

by Kay Gould

The relationship between makeup and cross-dressing is as unique as the impact of clothes on cross-dressers. In many ways it is driven by the same forces that affect genetic women (GGs). For them it starts when they are young and is a part of the passage to womanhood. The very first instances of makeup for little girls ushers them psychologically into the mystique of the grown woman they will ultimately become. For many young girls, their first trip with mommy to the large department store cosmetic counter for any kind of professional makeup consultation is more dramatic and lasting in its influence on the rest of their lives than anything else save several more dramatic new experiences such as sex, dating and things on that order. Big girl dress-up activities have the same effect as well.

For TVs, to begin to wear makeup is a sign that you are becoming a woman. For many, practicing the application is a never ending delight with many erotic and otherwise emotionally fulfilling results. Many TVs, like GGs, find that it's part of coming of age. Throughout their lifetime as 'new women' TV's emotional connection to their cosmetics goes through different stages. A GG's stages will, however, be different than for many

'new women'. For a GG, when they are young, it makes them look desireably older and when they are older, it either preserves an image of youth or makes them, look younger. The equating of 'looking younger' with 'desirability' is especially important to most women given our culture. For TVs however, the first result is establishing the feminine identity or passing phenomenon. Throughout the TV life cycle however, for many it does not progress from the same stages as does the GG's transition. Yet for both, the 'new woman' and the GG, makeup serves distinctly as a mask. In some cases GGs say they do not like makeup for the mask effect is undesirable.

For both the GG and the TV, embarking on a relationship with cosmetics brings one into a whole new world of options. More for TVs than GGs, the effect is like entering a candy store. For the TV, it is one of the true forbidden fruits of manhood. For many TVs the physical act of making up is itself a fulfillment and results in a gratification and release. This phenomenon begins to become less strong and less erotic as they dress extensively. New or less frequent dressers retain this characteristic for as long as they are less frequent dressers. For the non neophyte and as well the GG, the 'store' cosmetic department is a dreamland. Just wander in and enjoy all the attention that can be yours. Painted ladies, very well dressed, offer to spray you with the most delicious of scents or to powder and paint you if you wish. They promise to make you more beautiful than you already are. For the intermediate level TV passing well enough to fool the professional store makeup salesperson is a key threshold often sought and when reached can be very intoxicating. The salespeople also offer free gifts of the most desirable new and expensive cosmetics. The counters are interesting in their diversity. One attracts the college woman, the next the siren and the next the debutant. Which one do you want? What new look will you try? How much time will you spend there? Which line FEELS like you? It isn't surprising that many TVs choose the more exotic brands that their first great love or admired person uses.

Kay Gould

They are however, quite frequently affected in their choice by the view of luxury and super femininity they perceive in high fashion ads. The magic of the advertising genius and the role of sexuality as used by them sas never been more effective than in this arena.

A visit to the cosmetic department with resultant purchases means you've joined the 'league of women'. For that matter, the next step is their clubhouse - the powder room. Being able to 'freshen your makeup' with the girls in the powder room, while highly dangerous for any except the most accomplished TV, is a rite of passage and for many a real goal of achievement. For the GG and for the TV both, the world of makeup holds the promise of fun and creativity. You can color yourself, pick your personal palette and do as you wish duplicating that desirable image you've seen on someone else. Interestingly enough, for some middle-aged professional women, their lack of accomplishment with cosmetics derives from psychological issues.

They don't wish to appear vain or wanting to 'take the trouble' over so shallow an issue. Despite that, many, down deep, want a change. They are tired of looking into a mirror and seeing a 'wreck'. The TV is usually more driven to the need for makeup to mask the male appearance.

Makeup is a form of communication and it allows us to send a variety of messages. Not surprisingly, the not infrequent TV wish to appear 'slutty' and so to communicate a supposed availability results in more dramatic and telltale give-away 'trashy or over-painted' appearance. In most cases this creates the well known 'red flag' of 'something a normal woman would never do'. It happens however from the 'if some is great, more must be fantastic' syndrome. For GGs makeup communicates 'I want to be attractive' because not being attractive is simply unacceptable for a majority of women. The self doubt makeup introduced for some women almost never occurs with TVs. All TVs and many women feel 'I can't leave the house without putting on my face'. For both, identity gets created and reinforced by makeup. A similar thing occurs for TVs with heels and legs. The same does not occur for most GGs. In fact one sign of a maturing feminine perspective and transition for TVs is when they no longer need to wear skirts and heels to establish their femme self or to pass.

Since makeup serves as a bond between women it also bonds 'new women' (TVs) to the sorority of women. The bonding occurs in many ways for the GG and thus an accomplished makeup skill for a TV implies the same bonding having taken place. GGs learn it from other women; as adolescents, they shop for it with other women; they trade tips with other women, sometimes in long evenings in front of the mirror. There are moments of intimacy and sharing, the aura of sisterhood, arising between women as they help each other look pretty. The same occurs when a supportive GG helps a 'new woman' emerge. The creation of 'sisterhood' or admittance to the 'sorority' is the reason so many neophyte TVs absolutely prefer a GG to a male to teach them. The fact that makeup centers around the human face, the focal point of personal communication, makes it so effective as a bonding agent.

Needless to say, for many GGs the competitive edge that makeup implies and confers is critical. The whole point of makeup is to say, "look-I'm the fairest of them all." For TVs, until many years down the pike, the point is more, "look I'm real and as fair as any of the others you may look at." For both, there is still the notion that "I want to look prettier or more desirable than anyone else." In that sense it is other than a bonding agent because it reinforces the 'betterness' or negatively, the 'less desirableness' of others. Without question, there is a magical attraction to makeup - sort of a kissing the frog fairy tale transformation experience. Some GGs look at makeup as a lockhold device on the passage of time and most certainly it can be just that. But the lockhold for both TVs and GGS must not be in an unmoving position relative to the thing it is applied to - the face which is physically aging as the clock moves forward. Better the approach of 'I use makeup to make myself look 10 years younger' than 'still 30'. As GGs get older they wear makeup to feel better and to look better. The older they get the less is the motivation to do so because of the opposite sex. In that sense they do it to better contend with other 'women' and to ensure that there is no 'lack of acceptance'. TVs need to keep their makeup, except for very significant affairs, relative to their true chronological age. It's just like the 'bubble hairdo' phenomena

Theseus Counseling Services

ARI KANE M.Ed.
GENDER SPECIALIST

F.C.C.
233 HARVARD STREET
BROOKLINE, MA 02146
277-4360

KENMORE STATION
BOX 368
BOSTON, MA 02215
(617) 277-3454

that is to be avoided at all cost. Dressing or making-up in a time inconsistent or place/event inconsistent manner is, deadly for the TV. GGs are looked down on, TVs are discovered or exposed with all the accompanying embarrassment and risk.

Smile at yourself! Look pretty and desirable! Feel pretty and wanted! Makeup does all these for the GG and the TV. But for the TV it's also 'appear real and give no clue with all the inner electricity that can flow from within'. For both, makeup does it and that's why GGs and TVs use it and keep it close at hand. We wander among the sprays, paints, tints, and powders choosing the bottles, colors, and packages. We both feel all electric and excited. I feel totally close to my makeup but one GG I know says it best and unabashedly, "My makeup is not a big deal - it's the biggest deal."

- END -

PSYCHOLOGY

(Edited from 'Our Special Joy', published by Chi Delta Mu, P.O. Box 327, Massapequa Park, NY 11762)

ROGER'S NOTEBOOK, #15 & #16

by
Roger E. Peo, Ph.D.
Director, Androgyny Unlimited

Article #1

Definitions often create more problems than they are meant to solve. Sot is is with the terms 'transvestism' and 'transsexualism'. Reaching back into history, we find that the term 'transvestism's was probably coined first and was used to describe all behaviors where the members of one physical sex (usually the male) adopted the dress of the other sex. Often this term had overtones of homosexual behavior. As we learned more about sexual behaviors and feelings, differences in this group were noticed. Researchers and clinicians decided another term was needed, so transsexualism was created. Since that time people have generally used these terms to describe two distinct kinds of transgender behavior. The sub-culture has added many terms of their own as they felt the need to separate themselves from the clinical implications of the original terms.

Classically, the 'difference' between male transvestites and transsexuals often pivots on the issue of sexual arousal from cross-dressing. The transvestite is sexually aroused while the transsexual is not aroused. A number of other behaviors are often used to further differentiate between transvestites and transsexuals. A therapist will ask about the age at which such feelings began, how strong the feelings are and how constant they are. Generally the younger the age at which the person began to feel like the other sex and the more constant that feeling, the more likely it is that they are transsexual.

In addition to these behavioral differences, there have been several theoretical attempts to put trans-gender behaviors on a scale. Probably the first instance of this was done by Dr. Harry Benjamin, one of the pioneers in transsexual treatment. Dr. Benjamin devised a six-point scale that was patterned after the Kinsey scale for heterosexual and homosexual behaviors. In the Benjamin scale, transvestism was at one end and transsexualism was at the other. In between there were varying shades of behavior. Other researchers and thinkers have proposed other scales, which included heterosexual and homosexual components or anatomical constructs. These scales are another attempt to make sense of the various behaviors. As with the definitions, they are good in the abstract and for further research but fall short when applied to a specific person.

Why go to all this trouble? Sex researchers want to be able to understand sexual behaviors, thus their research and theories. The major reason therapists make such distinctions is to determine what direction clinical treatment should take. If a person is transsexual, the outcome is often to a -ist the person in making a transition from one gender role to the other. Because this transition is not reversible, it is very important to be sure that this is the right decision.

As I talk with clients, I come to the conclusion that each is unique. The scales and definitions help me understand their needs but in the end each person has to find a way to harmonize their own feelings. Some choose genital reassignment surgery, some choose hormone therapy. Others look for ways to blend the male and female aspects of their personality.

Transvestite, cross-dresser, transsexual, transgenderist, femmiphile, drag queen, androgyne, male, female, heterosexual, homosexual, bisexual, masculine, feminine, man, woman -- the label is less important than feeling good about who you are and living in harmony with those around you.

* * * * * * *

Article #2

Being 'made' to cross-dress is a thread that seems to run through many discussions about cross-dressing. This may come up when I talk to a client about his early experiences with cross-dressing. It also seems to be a recurring theme in the fantasy stories that are popular in our sub-culture. Scholarly tomes have been written on this link. Often a cross-dresser has the fantasy of being forced to wear women's clothing by a strong and dominating woman. This fantasy may also have him acting as a slave to this woman, doing her every wish. Tied into this style of fantasy are often themes of heavy corseting and/or bondage.

The question is, "Why are cross-dressing and bondage/domination often linked?" There is no simple answer to such a question. The specific answer for a person is probably lined to his experiences with cross-dressing. There do, however, seem to be some general reasons why being 'forced' to cross-dress has a certain appeal.

Consider the way in which a boy is usually brought up in our society. A general rule is, "Whatever you do, DON'T do 'girl-things'! This rule starts the whole process of being conditioned as a man and soon becomes sub-conscious where it can have a powerful influence on his behavior. If a boy has an irresistible attraction to things feminine and women's clothes in particular, he is faced with a real problem. If he puts on the clothes, he feels good but he is simultaneously violating that subconscious rule. Guilt then rears its ugly head.

One way to 'get around' this rule is to have the decision to cross-dress taken away. If a 'higher' power 'forces him to wear women's clothes, then he is not responsible for his behavior and so does not have to feel guilty. This is a simplistic explanation but I think it does have some truth for many cross-dressing men.

Something else that may drive such fantasies is the need to eliminate the male's role that requires him to make all the decisions. When someone else makes the decision for the man to cross-dress then for a while he is freed of this role expectation.

Coupled with this surrendering of control can be the need to be punished for wanting to be cross-dressed. The humiliation that comes from being a slave to a woman and/or being punished in some way can help to further reduce the man's guilt. Bondage in such a situation adds to the 'punishment'.

Generally wives and girl friends are not willing to go along with such requests because this requires a role reversal that many women are neither prepared for or are willing to take. They want their partner to be a man and fulfill the male role expectations. Cross-dressing is hard enough to cope with, to ask her to force him to dress and perhaps to order him around can be a great threat to her identity and to the relationship. Some wives are willing to do this for their husbands but out of love for him, not because they enjoy it.

As a fantasy, the idea of forced cross-dressing perhaps accompanied by bondage or domination has a strong appeal. There is nothing wrong with this as a fantasy, but to make it reality can create more problems than it solves.

- END -

(*** If you have subjects you would like me to write about or questions you want answered privately, you may write to me at P.O. Box 4887, Poughkeepsie, NY 12602 or call 914-462-7455. All communications are confidential.)

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THE ANDROGYNE HYPOTHESIS: A THEORY OF GENDER DYSPHORIA

by W.P. Rock, M. Litt., Ph.D.

Some years ago I began working in a therapeutic way with the androgyne hypothesis -- that every human psyche contains the disposition and characteristics of both sexes and seeks to realize them in wholeness. Since formulating this hypothesis in the mid-seventies, I have been able to use it very successfully in general therapeutic practice and in groups that I have led throughout the United States. These ideas were presented in 1980 in San Diego at a conference on Androgyny.

One of the basic elements of Jung's theory of individualization is that the primordial drive of the human psyche is towards wholeness. The life of the individual proceeds as a progressive opportunity to synthesize opo ng factors in the Self. Jung developed a technique of dream analysis which permitted the analyst to track this ongoing development through the dreams of the analysand. This technique formed the basis of his therapeutic approach: to ground his patients in the reality of their own individuation process.

The Essentially Androgynous Nature of the Human Psyche

The most basic of these opposites are characteristics which the world labels as "feminine" and "masculine". The human psyche has the potential for equal quantities of "feminine" qualities (such as feeling, intuition, receptivity, nourishment, and darkness) and of "masculine" qualities such as assertiveness, intellect, activeness, and extroversion. When a child is born, he or she has a given potential to be completely androgynous, that is, having the psychological dispositions that are associated with both men and women. In a sense, the drama beneath all life dramas is a function of the relationship of these opposites.

The Generation of Identity from Biological Gender

What happens to the andrgynous potential in early years has to do with the socialization process which takes its cue from the biological sex of the child. All the forces of society (beginning with the family and gradually extending into other social and educational influences) reinforce the identity derived from the anatomical sex. The person adopts an identity drawn from visible and accessible role models, and from cues in the social and cultural environment.

The Rejection of the Psychological Opposite

The result of socialization is a conscious identification with the anatomical gender. Jung called this identity the persona. The aspect of the psyche which manifests the opposite sex become submerged, autonomous. The submerged feminine aspect of a man is the anima, and the submerged masculine aspect of the woman, the animus. These rejected characteristics are trapped under the residue of all aspects of the

Self that are rejected by the persona. This repressed aspect of the Self, Jung called the shadow.

The persona carries the conscious identity. It rejects aspects that do not conform to the gender model. There, along with other anti-social elements become repressed as the shadow, which in turn, keeps the anima or animus deeply submerged. Most of the life of Western man is lived in this complex.

The Life Project of the Self to Become Whole

The life-work of the Self, according to Jung, is to re-own the rejected and submerged aspects. This happens through the force of individuation, of nature itself, which gives clues, powers, opportunities and a growing awareness. The person uses these to struggle with the obscurity of the shadow and to wrest a sense of the submerged other.

In the process of the development of the Self, the shadow must be assimilated, and then the anima/us. Jung's dream work confirmed that this is a lifelong process, which, successfully, completed results in the realization of the total Self. It is the mystical union of opposites, the realization of the androgynous Self. This is the maturity, or optimal development of the human psyche.

The Normal Process of Projection

The process by which the shadow is neutralized and the anima/us assimilated is a dialectical interplay of subjective (dream) and objective life. The primary mechanism for this is called "projection". The person projects the anima/us onto a religious image, such as the Virgin Mary, or else, far more common in the West, upon the "love object". In fact, the enormous power of being "in love" is attributable to the force of indivduation with which the psyche is attempting to integrate itself. A man falls hopelessly in love with the woman that his psyche has chosen as an objective correlative of his anima. Unfortunately, the actual woman is seldom able to live up to this projection, a situation from which many tragedies of love proceed.

Gender Dysphoria

In gender dysphoria there is a predisposition to act out the anima/us rather than to project it and relate to it in an external form. Because the anima/us is not accessible through projection, there is deep unease. This inaccessibility is caused by a predisposition towards the literal, the extroverted, towards matter. It seems to be a shadow aspect of the masculine psyche; a fixation on the material world, or outer reality. It represents a kind of blind spot.

The result is a compulsion to act out the submerged anima/us, a need to become it. For the cross-dresser, this becomes the compulsion to acquire the outer form of the anima/us. For the transsexual, this becomes a compulsion to consummate the acting out through actual surgical change. These compulsions have all the force of falling in love, of the primal drive for individuation. In a sense the compulsion is a kind of detour caused by the frustration of that drive.

This compulsion to act out is experienced as virulent anti-social behavior. There is tremendous guilt and self-loathing that builds around the desire, with the result that the acts become all the more compulsive. The self-contempt that grows up around the complex prohibits the attitude of self-love that is essential to the individuation process. Everything stops with this self-loathing. The first stage of therapeutic work is to change this attitude into one of self-acceptance and finally, self-love.

Another derailing possibility is that the compulsion to act out becomes addictive. The "high" of the acting out distracts the person more and more from authentic individuation through assimilation. In other words, if the acting out does not serve the process of individuation, it becomes an addictive, ritualized syndrome that prevents assimilation from taking place in an authentic way. Thus it is critical that persons suffering from gender dysphoria have the right kind of counselling early on.

Treatment for Gender Dysphoria

Only when a level of self-acceptance is reached can there be any kind of therapy to promote the authentic assimilation of the anima/us. I am convinced that recovery from gender dysphoria is not ultimately a question of acting out, but of realizing the opposite gender in an internal way, assimilating it authentically, internally and creating a lifestyle that allows for a fuller expression of the androgynous Self.

Treatment for gender dysphoria should contain the following elements:

* Promotion of self-acceptance and self-love.
* Dream analysis
* Activities that allow acting out in the service of assimilation (many non-Western cultures have ritual ways for allowing this).
* Meditation techniques that allow the person to access the inner dispositional aspect of anima/us.
* Spiritual training which allows for the exploration and realization of the spiritual dimensions of anima/us.
* Encouragement towards identity with androgynous role models.

possibilities Within Various Life Styles

Paradigm I: The "Straight" World

The "straight" world applauds the outer, the extroverted, the tangible, material world. "men are men and women are women, and ne'er the twain shall meet". This paradigm fosters the tendency to deal with internal matters in external ways. This way of being conceals the inner, introverted, spiritual significance of things and greatly reinforces the tendency to act out rather than to realize the anima/us.

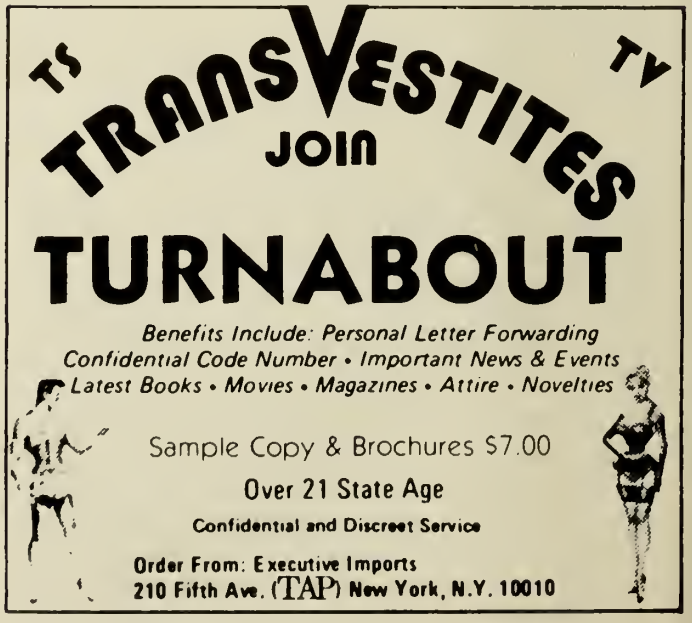
In the case of a man, for instance, what really needs to happen is an inner recognition and assimilation of the feminine disposition within. But this recognition cannot take place because the man's conditioning prohibits it. The result is a block which leads to acting out what is actually the need to realize the feminine self. This need is exacerbated because of the forbidden quality of the compulsion. CD's in this paradigm tend to "act out" women as they were perceived in childhood.

Paradigm II: The New Age

The "New Age" value system of Paradigm II is very flexible with regard to identification. There are broad possibilities for life-style experimentation and Self-realization.

Anyone impersonating a "now" woman would have to wear [or not wear] make-up, go braless [or at times, wear a jogging bra], and have an open and fresh naturalness [or any other mood appropriate to the feeling of the moment]. A man can't "get himself up" in this way. It can be achieved only by internally accepting the feminine and living it out in an internal way. It is my hypothesis that if the level of self-acceptance is very high, and a truly androgynous way of being is achieved, the gender dysphoria would disappear.

- END -



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DO WE DARE?

by Ellen Somers

I am sure many of us can remember the day we first decided to dress fully as a woman. Of course we all had our little secret places where we kept our feminine attire whether it was lingerie or dresses and shoes. However, sooner or later we accumulated a full outfit and the additional courage to dress in full feminine attire. When we stared into that motel mirror or the full length mirror at home to view that woman within, one of the last thing in our minds would have been the thought that this woman would pursue a course of public exposure in such a short period of time. It was enough for then just to see that lady of your fantasy there in front of you. The thought that this secret life would be enough to satisfy your past desires to unleash that feminine creature of your dreams was all you had. Not so, sister, for many of us. It seems like yesterday since 'Ellen' felt that the private life of motel rooms and private interludes would suffice and still satisfy the quest for her desire to be fulfilled. As many of us know, it is a short step from the motel room to the avenue of public life.

That brings me to the point of my subject; DO WE DARE? Since I am not aware of the degree of acceptance in other parts of the country I cannot offer a satisfactory approval of the risks involved in any other area than the Northwest. However, in the Portland and Seattle area we find that if you exercise a little common sense you have little to fear from cross-dressing in public. Although there are those in law enforcement who are antagonistic toward our hobby, there are very few that are willing to openly attempt to detain one of us without due cause. I might mention, also, that those who will attempt to harass you are very few in number. Many of them have a feeling of inferiority toward their male self and therefore are threatened by your freedom to express yourself. Since cross-dressing is legal in most areas, the representatives of law enforcement are very reluctant to detain you for that reason only. If they do attempt to arrest you it must be in relation to an illegal act such as possessing a controlled substance, drunk driving, or disturbing the peace. Therefore, as I said previously, if you use common sense and act as a lady would act, you have very little to fear out there among the public.

If there is one word of caution it is the following; you could incur some possibility of trouble if you are detected as a male while in a ladies room. If a complaint is registered by a female who recognizes you as a man, a law officer must investigate. The possibility of a charge against you could be made but very very seldom are you detained or is the charge ever pursued by the complainant. However, I do recommend you exercise some caution in this activity. Since we all require some exposure in this area, I suggest you be quite careful and act as a lady would act in such a circumstance. (In other words, do not become an aggressive male!)

In the activities of NWGA, some of our ladies have been stopped by police officers for traffic violations but with no dire consequences. A comparison of the obvious lady behind the wheel to the picture and detail on the license will bring no more than a smile and the usual conversation regarding the violation, if you are polite and cooperative with the officer.

So there you have it ladies, from my angle, and from the angle of many of the NWGA girls. It seems in most cases all you have to fear is fear itself when you enter that big world outside the closet.

- END -

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(Issues 1-32 were in newsletter form and are not available)

STAMPS-STAMPS-STAMPS

As you know, the Tapestry is a non-profit publication that also serves as an information clearing house. Now we have added the IFGE, which adds greatly to the already overwhelming postal burden. The average mailing cost is approaching $300 per month. To keep up WE NEED YOUR HELP!!!

Send your contribution to: Tapestry, Box 19, Wayland, MA 01778

ALL CONTRIBUTIONS ARE TAX deductible

ATTN: WIVES / SIGNIFICANT OTHERS

INTRODUCING: S.O.S. NEWS

Lyn S., a member of the ETVC Significant Others Support Group (SOS) announces plans for the development of a newsletter of specific interest to wives and SO's of TVs and TSs.

The purpose would be to provide a networking device between Wives/SO groups, to educate, encourage, and effectively address the special problems and needs of wives and SO's.

For additional information, contact:

'SOS Network News'
c/o ETVC
Box 6486
San Francisco, CA 94101

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"...if, by concealing our sex we find that we, too, can roam up and down the earth in safety, we shall keep our womanhood a profound secret." - The Revolution, by Elizabeth Cady Stanton 1869

* * * * * * * * * * * * *

Please send _____copies of "INFORMATION FOR THE FEMALE-TO-MALE". I have enclosed $6.00 for each book ordered. Note to Retailers: Inquire about pricing.

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AN INTERNATIONAL HEADQUARTERS FOR I.F.G.E.

The establishment of a headquarters for ourcommunity is extremely important. The purpose of this letter is to inform you of our progress, and to enlist your interest, input, and support.

We have a transition committee consisting of members of the Board of Directors if IFGE and Tiffany, the Treasurer, and a realtor. That committee is currently looking at a property owned by Mr. Vernon Porter, owner of Vernon's Silk & Lace in Waltham Mass. Vernon has available the entire 3rd floor of his building which he is offering to us for a very reasonable rate. There is also a possibility for purchase (rent with option).

REASONS:

We are interested in the property for many reasons, including:

(1) The property is zoned 'Commercial-B' (commercial-residential), which means we can function and grow without being vulnerable to the whims of our neighbors and local government.

(2) The Board of Directors of IFGE has given us a mandate to develop an international headquarters capable of handling an 800-number, a staff, publishing, etc. Our present facility is overwhelmed, and without adequate facilities we cannot meet that request.

(3) The demand for our publication, 'the Tapestry', and subsequent publications is exploding. Yet, because of space limitations our equipment is in storage, forcing us to sub-contract to others. We must consolidate our equipment and staff in order to meet the demand.

(4) The demand for membership and for a decent facility is extremely high, but we have been unable to accept new members except on a replacement basis, or make better use of our present facilities. We simply don't have the room, the parking, the storage space, overnight accommodations, etc.

(5) Because of space limitations we have had to severely limit our programs. For many programs we have been forced to use expensive outside facilities.

Mr. Porter's property offers us adequate space for our needs now, at an affordable rate. His plans for expansion will accommodate our future growth.

PROPERTY DESCRIPTION:

It is a vacant (and I do mean vacant) 3rd floor to an older brick building (currently home to a million pigeons). It contains 12 bedrooms, a 24' X 60' ballroom, and a 1000 sq ft open area for a deck. (Vernon plans to build a 750 sq ft extention to the ballroom containing a kitchen, 2 half-baths, a storage area, and an elevator. He also plans to build 2 full baths and a kitchen to service the bedroom area.) Total interior space is app. 4500 sq ft + a 1000 sq ft deck. His asking price is $8 sq ft, or app. $3000 per month. (Asking price for commercial space in that area is $13 - $16 per sq ft.)

The heating system will be forced hot air, + a heat-pump.

As I said, the property is vacant, and Vernon will renovate to our specifications.

Bedrooms: We plan to use 1 bedroom for the IFGE Managing Director (me), 1 bedroom for the Facilities Manager (housemother), and 4 bedrooms for a guesthouse & residence. We plan to use 2 bedrooms for offices, 1 bedroom for a kitchen, and 2 1/2 bedrooms for storage, and 1/2 bedroom for dressing facilities.

Ballroom: This would be our general purpose area for a

comprehensive schedule of programs. A 20' X 24' section would be separated to use as a lounge, and the remaining 24' X 40' section used for programs. A divider would separate the lounge from the meeting area and could be taken down if the extra space were needed.

Vernon is planning to build a 34' X 70' dance studio on the 2nd floor, which we are more than welcome to use if needed.

Parking: There is a private 34-car parking lot attached to the bulding, with another private parking lot nearby. There is also a large municipal parking lot across the street.

PROS & CONS:

Pros: It is commercially zoned, and well laid out for our purposes. It is priced well below fair market value. It has considerable income potential and growth potential. It has ample parking with a private entrance from the parking lot. It is near complimentary services (beauty parlors, Vernon's, etc.). It is conveniently located, within a few minutes walk of mass transportation, 15 minutes from downtown Boston, and 2 miles from the intersection of I-95 and the Mass Pike. We would have a friendly and supportive landlord. We would dictate the terms of the lease. We have time (occupancy would not be until late Fall at the earliest). It is very secure for a commercial area.

Cons: The biggest 'con' is finding a way to crack the $3000 - $3500 a month nut. (See 'Finances' below!) It is a 3rd floor walk-up (an elevator is in the plans however). It would be leased, not owned (but owning now appears to be an option). It would require a substantial investment for furnishings, decorating, etc. A huge amount of work needs to be done (carpentry, painting, etc.). We would lose our current residence and its quiet country setting. It would represent a quantum leap forward and we would have to deal with finding commitments and with the fear generated by such a move. It would be less secure than our present location (commercial rather than residential, urban rather than rural).

MANAGEMENT:

This facility is designed to maximize our income and usage, and would be professionally managed. IFGE would be the landlord, and manager of the office space. However, the Tiffany Club would be the primary tenant, and manager of the facility and programs. The Facilities Manager (Housemother) would be an employee of the Tiffany Club. Tiffany would be responsible for maintenance, collecting all fees, paying all bills, and for maintaining security and enforcing the code of conduct. Individuals and organizations using the facility would be dealing with Tiffany, and not IFGE.

Anyone using the facility or responsible for a program is answerable to the Housemother and the Tiffany Club officers who are in turn answerable to the Tiffany Board of Directors, which is in turn answerable to the IFGE Board of Directors.

FINANCES:

Finance is our biggest concern. This facility would represent an increased monthly expenditure of $2000 - $4000 above what we are currently paying (rent, utilities, insurance, loan for furnishings, etc.).

We want a classy place, a place of which our Community can be proud. That represents a major investment in furnishings, etc. That will require either taking out a loan, or somehow raising a great deal of money. We are considering options, and your imput would be most welcome.

The increased expenses can be handled by increased room rentals, memberships, storage fees, attendance fees, programs fees,

overnight fees, fund raising campaigns, etc. We believe the most radical increase would be in the form of attendance and programs fees, but we have to move in and get settled before the facility is financially self-sufficient. That means between now and the time we move in we have to have enough money in the bank to pay for any deposits, to cover our shortages, etc. That means planning.

The IFGE and Tiffany Finance Committees are currently working on a financial prospectus to clarify where we are currently, offer a projection of where we could expect to be when and shortly after we move in, and collecting ideas and proposals for financial alternatives to ensure we would not be in financial jeopardy. Again, your input would be most welcome.

We would be interested in talking with persons who might be interested in being financial backers or investors.

TRANSITION:

We have formed a Transition Committee consisting of Patricia West (Chrmn IFGE Board of Directors & IFGE Executive Committee, and Tiffany Board of Directors), Helen Tibbetts (IFGE Board of Directors and Executive Committee, and Tiffany Board of Directors), Gloria Williams (Realtor), Joan Hoff (Treasurer IFGE & Tiffany), Laura Granger (President of Tiffany), and Merissa Sherrill Lynn (IFGE and Tiffany Board of Directors, IFGE Executive Committee, IFGE Managing Director, Tiffany Executive Secretary, Tapestry Publisher). Pam Miller (lawyer) is serving as a legal advisor, and Diane Dixon is serving as Security and Public Relations advisor.

If you have any questions, comments, suggestions, offers, etc. concerning this facility, contact: TRANSITION COMMITTEE, c/o MERISSA S. LYNN, P.O. BOX 19, WAYLAND, MA 01778 (617) 358-2305

"TRANSSEXUALS IN PRISON"

A Newsletter Network for TS Inmates in U.S.A. & Canada

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REFERENCES

NEW ENGLAND

INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION for GENDER EDUCATION: I.F.G.E., P.O. Box 19, Wayland, MA 01778 617-358-2305

Nature: I.F.G.E. is a non-profit educational/service organization designed to serve as a communications medium, outreach device, and networking umbrella for the entire TV/TS Community, and those persons affected by and serving that Community.

Services: Currently I.F.G.E. Publishes 'the TV-TS Tapestry Journal' and other publications relevant to the TV/TS theme, and sponsors an annual international convention. I.F.G.E. is working on the development of affiliated chapters, an international information clearing house, speakers bureau, and an 800- number.

TV/TS TAPESTRY PUBLICATIONS: Tapestry, P.O. Box 19, Wayland, MA 01778 617-358-2305

Nature: Tapestry Publications is a division of I.F.G.E.

Services: The 'Tapestry' is our primary publication at this time. However, we are also working on transcripts, reprints, how-to books, directories, etc. Tapestry Publications is designed to be our community's own publishing company.

TIFFANY CLUB: Tiffany, P.O. Box 19, Wayland MA 01778 617-358-2305

Nature: A chapter of the International Foundation for Gender Education (see I.F.G.E.). Tiffany is a non-profit non-sexual organization offering education, friendship, and support.

Services: Tiffany provides a comprehensive program of services and activities including, but not limited to publishing the Rosebuds newsletter, a safe-house, casual get-togethers, workshops, seminars, beauty courses, a wives/significant others support group, a TS support group, parties, nights on the town, referrals, speakers bureau, outings, etc.

Security: Tiffany welcomes all mature and responsible persons who will exercise good manners and common sense, and protect the security and peace-of-mind of all. If a person wishes to use Tiffany's facilities or attend a Tiffany function, that person must have met with and been cleared by a member of Tiffany's Screening Committee, or have a letter of introduction from a qualified person to ensure that the attendee understands Tiffany's objectives and will comply with Tiffany's security requirements and code of conduct.

TIFFANY CLUB WIVES SUPPORT GROUP: WSG, c/o P.O. Box 19, Wayland, MA 01778 (617) 358-2305

Nature: Affiliated with the Tiffany Club. For those in a committed relationship with members in good standing of the Tiffany Club.

Services: Monthly meetings, one-on-one support, outings, etc.

Security: See 'Tiffany Club'

THE HUMAN OUTREACH AND ACHIEVEMENT INSTITUTE Box 368 Kenmore Station, Boston MA 02215

Nature: The Outreach Institute is a non-profit corporation whose purposes and objectives are educational. Outreach works predominantly with Helping Professionals from the fields of Education, Guidance & Counseling, Therapy, Medicine, Law & Law Enforcement, Nursing and Human Services.

Services: Outreach's programs include OPERN (Outreach Professional Evaluation and Referral Network). seminars & workshops, a newsletter, Fantasia Fair (a living/learning growth experience for crossdressers, transsexuals and androgynes both male and female), and a book and publication service. (Outreach's catalog of books and reprints is available for $5.00. Outreach also has two information packets, one for the F-M TS and one for the M-F TS, $25.00 each.)

Security: Outreach's programs are strictly non-sexual and sophisticated. All participants at any Outreach program are expected to act accordingly.

TRANSCEND COUNSELING SERVICE 500 Newbury St., Springfield, MA 413-737-5032 Stephen E. Parent, M.A., Director

Services: Help with record, name, vocation, employment changes and resumes. Testing and psychological work-ups.

THE AMERICAN FEDERATION OF TRANSSEXUALS: Karen Aldrich, P.O. Box 9238, North Dartmouth, MA 02747

Nature: Transsexual support.

Services: Group sessions, peer counseling, social events, newsletter, public education, personal needs, guest speakers, referrals.

GENDER INFORMATION SERVICES: P.O. Box 9238, North Dartmouth, MA 02747-9238

Nature: Information and referral service.

Services: Books and pamphlets for sale. Referral service (fee required).

THE XX (TWENTY) CLUB Box 6070 Station 'A', Hartford CT 06106 (information: George W. Henry Foundation 203-522-2646)

Nature: The XX Club is a non-profit, non-sexual, social-educational-medical-outreach organization for persons interested in transsexualism. Friends and relatives are also welcomed, as are all those interested or involved with the crossdressing community.

Services: The XX Club has a monthly newsletter, and holds 2 meetings each month (the 2nd and 4th Saturday). The meetings include educational and medical programs, outreach work and information distribution. We also have social get-togethers, club parties, etc.

Security: We place no security precautions on people who wish to subscribe to our newsletter. However, if an individual wishes to attend our meetings, that person must meet and be cleared by a member of our screening committee, or have a letter of introduction from a qualified person to ensure that the attendee understands the XX Club's objectives and goals and that the individual will comply with security requirements and code of conduct. We request that all who attend our functions or meetings respect our anonymity.

THE CONNECTICUT VIEW: c/o Denise Mason, P.O. Box 2281, Devon, CT 06460

Nature: 'The View' is non-profit and non-sexual but respectful of its members' sexual preferences. Its objectives are to promote and propagate the friendship of the TV/TS Community through education, support, and understanding of its members and their families.

Service: Punctual response to all communications, informative monthly newsletter, Wives Support Group, rap sessions, parties at various locations. Wig, makeup, clothing, and demeanor aids available. Costs shared by participants.

Security: None. House parties on an invitational basis, bar parties open. All members are required to be discreet and tolerant of each other. Common sense and courtesies prevail.

CONNECTICUT GENDER ALLIANCE: Box 744, Branford, CT, 06405 Wendy J. Gwynne, Director

Nature: Non-profit non-sexual social organization for members and friends of the TV/TS Community.

GENDER IDENTITY CLINIC OF NEW ENGLAND 45 Church Street, Hartford, CT 06103

*** The following members of the Society for the Second Self (open to heterosexual crossdressers only) are interested in forming local chapters in the New England area:

NEW YORK

NEW YORK CITY GENDER ALLIANCE: c/o Fem Fashions, Penthouse B, 157 W 57th St, New York, NY 10019 (212) 582-6823 Muriel Olive, Director

Nature: Non-profit social organization for members and friends of the TV/TS Community.

LAMDA IOTA CHAPTER - TRI ESS: Lambda Iota, P.O. Box 3676, New York, NY 10185

Nature: See 'Society for the Second Self'

AS A WOMAN: c/o B. Fortune, Box 369, Brooklyn, NY 11235 718-852-4290 Barbara Fortune, Founder

Nature: 'As A Woman' is a self-help group for males who have a strong need to function as women in attire and deportment. It is non-sexual, and open to interested family members, friends, and women. 'As A Woman' welcomes all mature and responsible persons, and emphasizes friendship, support, good manners, common sense, and the security and peace of mind for all.

Services: Monthly meetings, educational programs, opportunities to blend into society as a woman through controlled exposure to being out in public.

Security: Meeting attendees are requested to sign an 'oath of secrecy', protecting the individuals attending the meeting.

LONG ISLAND SOCIAL CLUB contact: Kay & Ursula Kwarta, 50 Sunny Rd, St. James, NY 11780 (516) 584-7736

Nature: Monthly dinner parties in a non-sexual atmosphere. A social gathering for crossdressers, transsexuals, their relatives & friends.

Services: Meetings on the 4th Saturday of each month. Bring your own bottle. A $10 charge includes a hot meal. Limited space available for dressing. Reservations necessary, so enough food for all is available.

Security: A phone call to Kay will usually suffice. No drugs or excessive alcohol will be tolerated. All guests are expected to conduct themselves as ladies & gentlemen.

SEX INFORMATION AND EDUCATION COUNCIL OF THE U.S. (SIECUS) SIECUS, 80 Fifth Avenue, New York, NY 10011

SIECUS is affiliated with the Department of Health Education of the School of Education, Health, Nursing, and Arts Professions of New York University. SIECUS deals with all sexually related issues, including gender expression.

THE BETTER LIVING INSTITUTE c/o Joyce Dewhurst, 37-50 76 St, Jackson Heights, NY 11372

Nature: The BLI is a non-profit non-sexual social organization for novice and accomplished crossdressers. The emphasis is on novice crossdressers. Most programs are geared for the novice. Accomplished cross-

dressers serve as our staff at meetings. The BLI is an educational arm of Joyce Dewhurst Parties, but both are separate and distinct.

Services: The BLI provides very informal get-togethers, beauty courses and a variety of social and educational events.

Security: No screening or security requirements. If, however, you do not meet our very liberal standards you will be so advised. This has happened only four times in five years.

JOYCE DEWHURST 37-50 76 St, Jackson Heights, NY 11372

Nature: Strictly social. Open to anyone interested in the crossdressing scene.

Services: Joyce Dewhurst sponsors frequent parties and debutante balls in NYC, and weekend outings to the Poconos in May and September.

Security: No screening or security requirements.

THE GATHERING: For additional information contact either: Jana L. Thompson, 560-C Main St, Hackensack NJ 07601 201-342-6548, or: Renata L. White, 509 East Putnam Ave, Greenwich, CT 06830 203-3561

Nature: A self-help support group for transsexuals in the greater New York Metropolitan area.

Services: Meetings the 1st Sunday afternoon of each month to discuss common problems, (meeting sites vary - inquire first) hear helping professionals, share experiences and information, and enjoy a pleasant social experience. Objectives include the development of a network of peer counselors, distribution of pertinent literature, resource guides to institutions and services.

Security: Participation is open to all M pre-operative transsexuals, post-operative transsexuals, friends and relatives. Inquiry needed.

CONFIDE - PERSONAL COUNSELING SERVICES INC. Box 56,Tappan NY 10983, 914-359-8860 or 914-997-1013, offices in Tappan NY and Hartsdale NY

Nature: Confide runs a therapy group in Tappan, comprising transsexuals, transvestites and persons who are trying to find themselves on the gender spectrum.

Services: Confide is a private service offering counseling, therapy, hypnosis and hypnotherapy, with a large proportion of our practice dealing with gender problems. Private therapy sessions are held with Garrett Oppenheim PhD FIC, the director, while Fae Robin, the co-director, offers coaching in grooming, manners, poise, makeup, shopping, etc. Dr. Oppenheim evaluates candidates for hormone therapy and sex reassignment surgery and makes referrals at the appropriate time.

Security: Membership in the group is contingent on a 1 1/2 hour screening session with Dr. Oppenheim.

CHI DELTA MU CHAPTER - TRI ESS: See 'Chi Delta Mu' NJ/PA

TRANSGENDERISTS INDEPENDENCE CLUB (TGIC): TGIC, P.O. Box 13604, Albany, NY 12212-3604 518-436-4513 5-10 p.m. weekdays, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Saturdays

Nature: Non-sexual group offering friendship and support to crossdressers, transsexuals, significant others.

Services: Monthly parties, support group raps twice a month, newsletter, wives support raps, storage.

Security: We have set up a screening process to ensure the comfort and safety of all. You may feel assured of anonymity and our discretion.

ANDROGYNY UNLIMITED: P.O. Box 4887, Poughkeepsie, NY 12602 1-914-462-7455 Roger E. Peo, Ph.D. Dir.

Nature: Androgyny Unlimited is a private service that provides counseling, research, education and supporting services for transgendered persons.

Services: Individual counseling is provided by Roger E. Peo, Ph.D. a board-certified sexologist, primarily for the transvestite/cross-dresser and/or his partner. Counseling is also provided for persons who are trying to determine if they are cross-dressers or transsexuals. Referrals will be made where appropriate. Make-up and shopping services for clients are also available. Classes, seminars and workshops on transgender issues and human sexuality are provided both for college and graduate level students and for other groups. Ongoing research is conducted on a variety of topics in the transgender field.

Security: Appointments for counseling and allied services can be made by writing to Dr. Peo at the above address or by phone.

THE BUTTERFLY GROUP, Box 7161, Endicott, NY 13760 Shannon Micheals, President 607-798-8033

Nature: The Butterfly group is a non-profit, non-sexual social/educational organization for persons interested in crossdressing, for transsexual persons, and for relatives and friends.

Services: We have social get-togethers, a Couples Club, and a small network of professional and para-professionals, social workers, medical practitioners, beauty consultants, and clothing retailers who are interested and very helpful to us.

Security: Butterfly has no major security requirements, but we do require persons desiring to attend our meetings to be screened by our membership chairperson or other appointed member, or have a letter of introduction from a qualified person to ensure understanding and compliance with our code of conduct.

'EON', (Expressing Our Nature): PO Box 6293, Camillus, NY 13031

Nature: EON is a non-profit, non-sexual, social and educational peer support group. It is comprised mainly of couples in a committed relationship, where one is a cross-dresser.

Services: We offer monthly social get-togethers in a pleasant atmosphere at one of our member's home. We also have non-dress discussion groups for our couples and

friends. We have shops available that cater to our members. We also have a very active wives support group.

Security: EON requires a screening by a member of their screening committee prior to invitation as a guest. If you would like to be a guest please contact us through our P.O. Box. We welcome all mature and responsible people who enjoy the company of friends who share a common interests. We emphasize good manners, lady-like behavior, friendship, support, and security for all.

TRANSVESTITES ANONYMOUS (TVA): TVA, P.O. Box 26533, Rochester, NY 14626, (716) 723-1698

Nature: TVA is a non-profit support group currently consisting of app. 30 members and growing. At present we do not have yearly dues, and is run on donations by the membership.

Services: We publish a monthly newsletter for the membership, and meet the 3rd Tues of each month.

Security: We have a screening person who will meet with prospective members. We also control the membership list for security reasons.

*** 'THE SOCIETY FOR THE SECOND SELF' announces the formation of a new chapter in the following areas:

SYRACUSE, NY † Donna Marie NY 1634 H

For information write: 'Tri Ess', Box 194, Tulare, CA 93275. All mail will be promptly forwarded.

NEW JERSEY, PENNSYLVANIA

CHI DELTA MU CHAPTER - TRI ESS: Chi Delta Mu, P.O. Box 327, Massapequa Park, NY 11762 (201) 663-0772

Nature: See 'Society for the Second Self'.

Services: Get-togethers the 2nd Saturday of each month in either Northern New Jersey or Southern Westchester County NY. Very interested in attracting wives and girl friends. We have over 75 paid members, and have been in existence for over three years.

Security: Private interview with Chapter President or qualified member.

NORTHERN NEW JERSEY Ms Lynda Frank, Box 9192, Morristown, NJ 07960 (201) 663-0772

Nature: Open membership, non-sexual

Services: Get-togethers the last Saturday of each month at various locations in Northern NJ.

Security: Interview required.

PHI CHAPTER: c/o D. Beeman, P.O. Box 2512, West Chester, PA 19380

Nature: Open membership, non-sexual social organization.

Services: Get-togethers on the 4th Saturday of each month in Cherry Hill, NJ. We are very interested in having wives and girl friends attend our meetings.

Security: Phi places emphasis on security to all. Membership is offered to those by referral of a club officer, a member in good standing, or by contacting the chapter for same.

TRANSSEXUAL SUPPORT GROUP of PHILADELPHIA: TS Support Group, P.O. Box 15836, Philadelphia, PA 19103

Nature: A non-profit non-political support group for people who are, have been, or think they may be transsexual. The purpose of the group is to ease the loneliness, the feeling of uniqueness, and to provide hope through open-mindedness on a common ground of mutual respect. The thrust of the group is geared toward the whole person, not simply their sex or gender, but rather all aspects - physical, emotional, mental, and spiritual.

Services: Our group meets the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of each month at Dignity House, 252 South 12th St, Philadelphia. We have raps, workshops, etc. No dues or fees, supported solely by donations and no person is turned away due to inability to pay, or affectional status.

RENAISSANCE, P.O. Box 1263, King of Prussia, PA 19406

Nature: Renaissance is a non-profit, non-sexual social/support/educational organization of individuals who share the desire and need to crossdress, and for their significant others. It is a group that accepts, without judgment, and helps the individual to grow at their own pace.

Services: Meetings and educational programs for both members and for the professional community.

Security: Inquire

TRANSPITT, Box 59406, Pittsburgh, PA 15211 Johnnie D. Director

Nature: TransPitt is a non-profit non-sexual social organization with an open membership policy.

Services: Meetings the third Saturday of each odd numbered month. Referrals.

Security: Meeting with Club officer.

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ROGER E. PEO, PHD
P.O. BOX 4887
POUGHKEEPSIE, N.Y. 12602 (914) 473-5684

THE SOCIETY FOR THE SECOND SELF announces the formation of new chapters in the following locations:

TRENTON-NEW BRUNSWICK NJ † write: Dorothy G., P.O. Box 467, Oakhurst, NJ 07755
PHILADELPHIA PA † Melanie PA 1401 O
PITTSBURGH PA † Marcia PA 1394 F

For information write: Tri-Ess', Box 194, Tulare, CA 93275. All letters will be promptly forwarded.

MID-ATLANTIC

BALTIMORE-WASHINGTON: R. Lewis, P.O. Box 80724, Washington, DC 20004-0724
Nature: Non-profit social organization for members and friends of the TV/TS Community.

MY CHOICE: Kathy Stevens, 1417 McHenry St, Baltimore, MD 21223 792-9639
Nature: My Choice is a non-profit non-sexual support and information group for the TV-TS Community and friends.
Services: Friendly, informal meetings and social activities for members and friends.
Security: Inquire. Common sense and courtesy are the rules.

SEXOLOGY ASSOCIATES, INC.: H. Martin Malin, PhD, 4835 Del Ray Ave, Bethesda, MD 20814
Nature: Counseling for transgendered persons.

JANUS/DC: c/o Dr. H. Martin Malin, 4835 Del Ray Ave, Bathesda, MD 20814
Nature: Transsexual support

ACADEMY AWARDS of WASHINGTON DC, 5104 South 11th st, Arlington, VA 22202
Nature: Theatrical drag, with an emphasis on the performing arts.

DELTA CHI CHAPTER: Box 11254 Lincolnia Sta., Alexandria, VA 22312
Nature: Social/support group for TVs, TS's, and their significant others.
Services: Social activities, meetings once a month.
Security: Inquiry needed.

BUTTERFLY COUPLES of NOVA, P.O. Box 3234, Manassas, VA 22110
Nature: Social/support group for TV's, TS's, and their significant others. An emphasis on people in committed relationships.
Services: Social activities
Security: Inquire

NORFOLK TS GROUP: Donna Johnston, Box 1923, Norfolk, VA 23501
Nature: Transsexual support

SOUTHEAST

THE MONTGOMERY FOUNDATION, INC.: Gender Dysphoric Association, PO Box 33311, Decatur, GA 30033
Nature: Strictly a support group for male and female pre- and post-op transsexuals. No fees.
Services: Referrals, rap sessions, and programs designed for the needs of the transsexual.

SATURDAY'S LADIES: P.O. Box 81683, Atlanta, GA 30366
Nature: Open, non-sexual support organization for cross-dressers, transsexuals, and their significant others.
Services: Meetings 3rd Saturday
Security: Pre-screened interview

THE TRANSSEXUAL VOICE: P.O. Box 16314, Atlanta, GA 30321
Nature: A newsletter written by and about transsexuals. $2.00 per copy, $12.00 per year.

SERENITY: c/o Nikki Bee, PO Box 307, Hollywood, FL 33022
Nature: Social/support group for TVs, TS'S, and their significant others.
Services: Monthly meetings and newsletter.
Security: Inquire

BUTTERNUT BELLES (AND BOYS) Box 3585, Knoxville, TN 37917, call: Wendy 524-1629 (between 7 and 9 p.m.)
Nature: Open non-sexual social/support group. We welcome straight, gay, TV, TS, wives and significant others. Our membership is scattered over four states.
Services: Right now our services are pretty much restricted to informal rap groups, but we are growing.
Security: Inquire

*** THE SOCIETY FOR THE SECOND SELF announces the formation of new chapters in:

BALTIMORE MD † Sharon MD 1856 R
ORLANDO FL † Linda FL 2116 L, Peggy FL 2117 F, Dora FL 1594 C
WASHINGTON DC † Cathi DC 2075 M, Gloria Ann MD 1474 W
CHARLOTTE NC † Francis NC 1905 T
WINSTON-SALEM NC † Veronica NC 2162 T

For information write: Tri Ess, Box 194, Tulare, CA 93275. All letters promptly forwarded.

MIDWEST

PARADISE CLUB: Paradise, P.O. Box 29564, Parma, OH 44129
Nature: Paradise is a non-profit non-sexual social organization with an emphasis on friendship and support (especially for wives). Paradise has approximately 90 members with an average of 50+ in attendance at

each meeting.

Services: Paradise publishes a newsletter (Paradise Tales), and every other month sponsors a meeting with a catered dinner, and usually a special function such as a speaker, make-up advice, a show, etc. Paradise also sponsors informal socials during the months between regular meetings.

Security: Paradise welcomes all mature and responsible people, and places an emphasis on good manners, common sense, and the security of all. Membership is offered only after a personal interview with an officer. Non-members may attend meetings, with concurrence of officer. Open membership, but all members must be crossdressers, and must dress at meetings.

ALPHA OMEGA CHAPTER - TRI ESS: (formerly Genesis) Alpha Omega, P.O. Box 954, Elyria, OH 44036 (Attn: Jill)

Nature: A social support group for heterosexual crossdressers and their families.

Services: Bi-monthly meetings, publish 'Alpha Omega Outreach' newsletter.

Security: Membership and attendance at a meeting requires an interview with a qualified Alpha Omega officer.

CROSS-PORT: (Attn: Heather), 2020 "B" Beechmont Ave, P.O. Box 150, Cincinnati, OH 45230

Nature: CROSS-PORT is a non-profit nonsexual organization for the male-to-female and female-to-male crossdresser and transsexual, and supportive friends, regardless of their sexual preference, practices, or orientation.

Services: CROSS-PORT publishes a monthly newsletter which is distributed to all it's members.

Security: All guests and members are expected to conduct themselves as ladies & gentlemen. Common sense is the rule. The mailing and membership lists are confidential. No member shall reveal the true name, address, telephone number or profession of another member to anyone, except with the other member's express permission.

TRANSSEXUALS IN PRISON (TIP): 'TIP', c/o M.J. Ashford (Pres.), 1479 Collins Ave, Marysville, OH 43040

Nature: A newsletter network for transsexual inmates in the United States and Canada.

INDIANA CROSSDRESSERS SOCIETY (IOTA CHI SIGMA): IXE, P.O. Box 20710, Indianapolis, IN 46220

Nature: Non-profit TV/TS social/support group.

Services: We currently have about 20 members from around Indiana and have been meeting monthly in Indianapolis.

Security: Inquire

CROSSROADS CHAPTER: Crossroads, P.O. Box 196, Garden City, MI 48135 Milesa Phar, President

Nature: Crossroads is a non-profit nonsexual social organization emphasizing friendship and support and the peace of mind of all. Crossroads has a formal membership of approximately 90 and an informal membership of approximately 250.

Services: Crossroads publishes a newsletter (Crossroads Chatter), and sponsors both formal and casual social activities. Crossroads provides referrals to other organizations nationwide, and helping professionals in the Great Lake area. Crossroads also investigates agencies, businesses and organizations, and does considerable outreach work and publicity for the paraculture.

Security: Crossroads welcomes all mature and responsible people, and places an emphasis on good manners, common sense, and the security of all.

NATIONAL GENDER DYSPHORIA ORGANIZATION and SUPPORT GROUP (N.G.D.O.): N.G.D.O., P.O. Box 02732, Detroit, MI 48202 313-842-5258, Justina Williams, Pres.

Nature: N.G.D.O. is a non-profit organization serving G.D. victims and crossdressers. It is a 'crossover' organization into the general public.

Services: N.G.D.O. publishes a newsletter ('N.G.D.O.-Key To Freedom'), and sponsors support groups for gender dysphoric persons, crossdressers and parents. N.G.D.O. also sponsors bible reading groups, a speaker bureau, and conventions.

NATIONAL GENDER ALLIANCE: P.O. Box 2312, Chicago, IL 60690 Sharon Hart, President (312) 472-4518 (formerly Windy City Chapter GGA)

Nature: N.G.A. is a non-profit nonsexual organization for the male-to-female and female-to-male crossdresser and transsexual, and supportive friends. N.G.A. membership is open to all crossdressers and transsexuals, regardless of their sexual preferences, practices, or orientation.

Services: N.G.A. provides social activities, referrals, and sponsors the annual 'Spring Fling' convention.

CHICAGO GENDER SOCIETY: C.G.S., P.O. Box 578005, Chicago, IL 60657 Mr. David Maxwell, President (312) 231-8923

Nature: Non-profit social organization for crossdressers, transsexuals, friends.

Security: Inquire

CHI CHAPTER - TRI ESS: Chi Chapter/Tri-Ess, P.O. Box 2055, Des Plaines, IL 60018 (312) 364-9514

Nature: Chicago chapter of the Society for the Second Self, a non-profit organization for heterosexual crossdressers.

Services: Social activities, support group for wives and girlfriends, a helpline, newsletter, library, speakers bureau, and co-sponsor of 'Be All You Want To Be' weekend.

Security: Membership is open to heterosexual TVs only. Attendance requires an interview with the chapter president or older member to insure they are heterosexual and will comply with the Tri Ess code of conduct.

THE CROSSDRESSER'S BUREAU: G. Wright, P.O. Box 172, Gurnee, IL 60031

Nature: Newsletter

Services: The definitive information source for news on and about cross-dressers and crossdressing in the Chicagoland area as well as articles and information of interest to all. This monthly publication is now available through subscription to anywhere in

the U.S. and Canada. Six issues for $6.00, twelve issues for $10.00

WISCONSIN NETWORK The Network, P.O. Box 632, Waukesha, WI 53187 (414) 542-5735 (3-9 p.m.)

Nature: The Network prefers to deal with people from a variety of life-styles (gay and bi- men and women, TVs, TS'S, etc.) who are looking for long term relationships or help in developing relationships with others or with the family, friends, or other significant people in one's life.

Services: The Network includes a monthly newsletter, meetings monthly for gay men and women, bisexual men and women, and TVs and TS'S. The Network also provides a monthly newsletter, social gatherings for special events, and a dating service.

PROGRAM IN HUMAN SEXUALITY 2630 University Ave, S.E, Minneapolis, MN 55414 Dr. Eli Coleman, Dir.

Services: Details not available at this time.

CITY OF LAKES CROSS-DRESSERS CLUB (CLCC): CLCC, P.O. Box 16265, Minneapolis, MN 55416 612-822-9726 Heather

Nature: Monthly meetings. The group's purpose is to provide a comfortable social setting for cross-dressers to meet like-minded folks. We are a non-sexual group when together, however personal orientation of individual members is not considered when newcomers apply to join us.

Security: A personal interview before coming to the first party.

MINNEAPOLIS CHAPTER TRI-ESS c/o Carol Beecroft, Box 194, Tulare, CA 93275

Nature: See 'Society for the Second Self'

SCD PUBLISHING: C/O Nancy Lawson, P.O. Box 6322, Minneapolis, MN 55406

Services: Publishes a bi-monthly magazine, the 'TV/TS Talk', for members and supporters of the TV/TS community. Modeled after the Penthouse Forum, the 'TV/TS Talk' deals exclusively with gender related issues. $3.50 per issue, $21.00 per year.

ST. LOUIS GATEWAY FEMMES: P.O. Box 1262, St Louis, MO 63188

Nature: Non-profit social organization for crossdressers and transsexuals.

ST. LOUIS CHAPTER TRI-ESS c/o Carol Beecroft, Box 194, Tulare, CA 93275

Nature: See 'Society for the Second Self'

CROSSDRESSERS AND FRIENDS (C.A.F.): (Kansas City area) C.A.F., P.O. Box 1154, Belton, MO 64012

Nature: Non-profit support group. Inquire for additional details.

RIVER CITY: River City, P.O. Box 1305, Bellevue, NB 68005

Nature: Social, non-sexual (details pending)

Security: Send inquiry

INTER-MOUNTAIN

GENDER IDENTITY CENTER OF COLORADO, INC. (G.I.C.): P.O. Box 11563, 3715 32nd Ave, Denver, CO. 80211 (303) 458-5378

Nature: G.I.C. is a non-profit, tax exempt, educational and affiliative organization designed to provide a public service to the community.

Services: G.I.C. provides information and education on the issues of cross-dressing and gender conflict through a library of books and journal articles, rap sessions, workshops and seminars, and guest speakers from various areas of the community including medical, legal, insurance, personal grooming, male and female appearance and behaviors, etc. G.I.C. also provides a Speaker's Bureau, and a 24 hour Hot-Line.

GENDER IDENTITY CLINIC: Tomye Kelley, M.A., 8972 Oberon Rd, Arvada, CO (303) 420-9885

Nature: Private practice limited to work with crossdresser and gender conflicted and their significant others.

INGERSOLL GENDER CENTER, Colorado Office: 406 First National Bank Bldg, Box 402, Trinidad, CO 81082 Marsha Botzer, President, 206-281-0943 (in Washington)

Nature: See I.G.C., Seattle, WA.

GENDER IDENTITY COMMITTEE Department of Psychiatry, University of Utah, College of Medicine, 50 North Medical Dr., Salt Lake City, UT 84132 (801) 581-7951 Dr. Nyla J. Cole, MD

Services: Details not available at this time.

SOUTHWEST

TRI DELTA CHAPTER - TRI ESS: Tri Delta, P.O. Box 533, Richmond, TX 77469

Nature: The Houston chapter of Tri Ess. Social, for heterosexual TVs and their significant others.

Security: Membership and attendance requires an interview with the chapter president.

DELTA OMEGA CHAPTER - TRI ESS: Delta Omega, c/o P.O. Box 461103, Garland, TX 75042

Nature: The Dallas chapter of Tri Ess. Social, for heterosexual TVs and their significant others.

Services: Social activities, publish the 'DFW New Missies' newsletter.

Security: Membership and attendance requires an interview with a chapter officer.

BOULTON & PARK SOCIETY Box 169652, San Antonio, TX 78289-3252 Ms Denise Griffiths, President (512) 691-8915 between 8:00 a.m. and 11:00 p.m. only!!!

Nature: Open, non-profit, non-sexual support group for TVs, TS'S, and their families and friends.

Services: Meetings, newsletter 'Triple-

T News' ('Texas TV/TS News'), business directory.

Security: Persons attending a meeting are subject to filling out a questionnaire and possible screening. We will deny access to any person that in our opinion represents a threat to our 'security' on an individual or group basis.

NIGHTBIRD: Claudia L. Shane, c/o Larry J. McNamee, Siesta Mobile Home Pk #86, San Marcos, TX 78666

Service: A newsletter designed to provide an exchange of information and news items between former GGA chapters.

A ROSE: A Rose, P.O. Box 4351, Scottsdale, AZ 85261

Nature: A non-sexual support group for TVs, wives, friends, and relatives.

ALPHA ZETA CHAPTER - TRI-ESS: Alpha Zeta, P.O. Box 8425, Mesa, AZ 85204

Nature: A support group for heterosexual crossdressers and their significant others.

Services: Social activities, monthly meetings.

Security: Before attending, an interview with a chapter officer required.

TRANSITION CLUB: T.C., P.O. Box 42454, Las Vegas, NV 89116 731-5814 (ask for 'TC')

Nature: Private club for transsapiens who are transvestite, pre-op transsexual, & cross-dressers.

Services: Gatherings held at a private unpublished location. Friendship, companionship, recreation, business, travel, etc. etc. etc..... Newsletter due to begin publication in May, 1987

Security: High regards for discretion.

*** THE SOCIETY FOR THE SECOND SELF announces the formation of new groups in:

TOLEDO OH † Jan OH 2163
CEDAR RAPIDS, IA
NEW ORLEANS, LA
OMAHA, NB † Halley, NB 2070 H
SAN DIEGO, CA † Barbara Renee CA 1734 J
KANSAS CITY, KS † Vicky K., P.O. Box 19034, Topeka, KS 66619
ST. LOUIS, MO † Randi MO1643D
MINNEAPOLIS, MN † salli MN 1560 B
SALT LAKE CITY, UT † Lisa ID1144A, Tommie WY1605
WALLA WALLA, WA † Sally Ray WA2047M

Write: c/o Tri Ess, P.O. Box 194, Tulare, CA 93275. All mail will be promptly forwarded.

*** Judy Adams (NB-1179) is interested in starting a group in the Omaha, NB area.

CALIFORNIA

NEUTRAL CORNER: Neutral Corner, P.O. Box 12581, San Diego, CA 92112

Nature: Neutral Corner is a self-help group for crossdressers, transsexuals, and their families. Its purpose is to help its members live a normal and productive life.

Services: Serving San Diego County with social and educational programs, a communication network, monthly meetings, membership consulting, wives' and families' input, a buyers' guide, and a list of helping professionals.

Security: Inquire

SAN DIEGO/OCEANSIDE CHAPTER - SHANGRI-LA: c/o Nancy Watson, Box 18202, Irvine, CA 92713

Nature: A social organization for crossdressers.

Services: See 'Shangri-La' (CA)

Security: Meeting with a chapter officer

CROSSDRESSER HETEROSEXUAL INTERSOCIAL CLUB (CHIC) CHIC, Box 562, Duarte CA 91010 213-456-6511

Nature: CHIC is for heterosexual transvestites or crossdressers only, wives, professional people (MDs, psychologists, teachers, etc.), and friends. We are a local Southern California organization. We offer support and friendship, and stress security and good manners.

Services: CHIC sponsors meetings, parties, monthly dinners, and seminars on make-up, wigs, clothes, etc. CHIC publishes a monthly newsletter (CHIC Clippings), and sponsors educational programs for the public.

Security: CHIC meetings are closed - members only and approved guests. All guests must be screened and approved by two Board members as well as the hostess if a home meeting. Prospective members must apply with a written application, be interviewed by two members of the membership committee and then approved by the Board of Directors. CHIC emphasizes strict security for all its members and guests.

NATIONAL GENDER PROJECT Box 126, Northridge, CA 91328 Dr. Richard F. Docter, Dir.

Nature: Research in the TV-TS phenomena

ALPHA CHAPTER - TRI-ESS: c/o Virginia Prince, P.O. Box 36091, Los Angeles, CA 36091

Nature: See 'Society For The Second Self'

SCYROS CHAPTER (LOS ANGELES, SHANGRI-LA): c/o Nancy Watson, Box 18202, Irvine, CA 92713

Nature: See 'Shangri-La Club'

GENDER DYSPHORIA PROGRAM of Orange County, Inc.: 31815 Camino Capistrano, Suite L, San Juan Capistrano, CA 92675 (714) 661-7332

Nature: A comprehensive program for gender dysphoric persons. Our program is one of many options available. It is a composite of evaluative ant treatment techniques developed over the years by the more successful gender programs, which permits extensive screening and interaction with the

patient at minimum cost, integration of the patient into the mainstream of society.

Services: Our program is structured to permit the patient to explore alternatives to sex reassignment while providing an effective support mechanism during transition. Our program is a 4-block procedure consisting of intake, transition/support, surgery approval/disapproval, and follow-up.

OMEGA CHI - TRI-ESS: (Orange County, CA) Omega, P.O. Box 9091, Anaheim, CA 92802

Nature: See 'Society for the Second Self'

J2CP INFORMATION SERVICES: P.O. Box 184, San Juan Capistrano, CA 92693-0184 714-496-5227

Nature: J2CP provides information/referral services formerly provided by the Erickson Educational Foundation and JANUS Information Facility.

Services: J2CP provides an information package consisting of pamphlets and literature concerning gender dysphoria syndrome, TVism and TSism. This info package is available at a cost of $25.00 to cover research, printing, postage and secretarial services. Also, J2CP will provide referrals to reputable counselors, psychotherapists, or gender programs, and peer groups near your home.

Certified checks or money orders should be made payable to: J2CP Information Services. Specify whether you are M-F, F-M, or TV. If TS please provide your place of birth.

CHI CHI TAU - TRI-ESS: (Tulare area) c/o Tri Ess, P.O. Box 194, Tulare, CA 93275

Nature: See 'Society for the Second Self'

SOCIETY FOR THE SECOND SELF Carol Beecroft, Box 194, Tulare CA 93275

Nature: Tri Ess is a non-profit organization exclusively for heterosexual crossdressers.

Services: Tri Ess provides a correspondence directory, of commercial services, a magazine (The Femme Mirror), and chapters throughout the U.S.

Security: Membership in Tri Ess is open to heterosexual TVs only. Membership and attendance at a local chapter meeting requires an interview with the chapter president or older member to insure they are heterosexual and will comply with the Tri Ess code of conduct.

SHANGRI-LA CLUB Nancy Watson, Box 18202, Irvine CA 92713

Nature: Shangri-La is a non-profit social organization for crossdressers. Shangri La places emphasis on friendship and security.

Services: Shangri-La provides a bi-monthly newsletter (Le Femme), membership directory, identification card, free mail forwarding, reduced rate invitation to regional events, a commercial services directory, and a manual on how to form local chapters. Shangri La sponsors two major events, the 5-day Spring Shangri La (Biloxi), and June Shangri La (Southern California). Shangri-La has local chapters throughout the U.S.

Security: Prospective members are interviewed by Nancy Watson or officers of the local chapters.

RAINBOW GENDER ASSOCIATION: P.O. Box 700730, San Jose, CA 95170

Nature: Formerly San Jose Chapter, GGA. Non-profit non-sexual social/support group for TVs, TS'S, and their significant others regardless of their gender or sexual orientation.

Services: Our objective is to provide a safe and welcome place for male-to-female and female-to-male transsexuals, transvestites, and their significant others to get together with like-minded individuals. Attendance at RGA functions is open to all interested persons regardless of gender. We also promote the growth and development of RGA members as complete men and women through emotional support and education. We reach out to all transsexuals and transvestites in an effort to help them accept and make peace with themselves. Newsletter, social activities, peer support, educational programs, outreach work, public education. Visitors welcome.

THURSDAY IRREGULARS: Joan Sheldon, P.O. Box 7205, San Jose, CA 75150-7205

Nature: For nearly 6 years a group of TVs and their friends from the San Jose area have been meeting every Thursday for lunch. An informal discussion group and meeting of good friends. Participants come as their 'male' selves.

Security: The group is very security conscious, so inquire about requirements.

SANTA ROSA CHAPTER: 2525 Cleveland Ave., Santa Rosa, CA 95401 707-526-2500

Nature: Formerly Santa Rosa Chapter, GGA. Social/support, open to all crossdressers, transsexuals, and friends.

Services: Monthly meetings

Security: Prior to attendance, a meeting with a chapter officer.

SACRAMENTO CHAPTER: Bonnie Goodwin, Box 38918, Sacramento, CA 95838

Nature: Formerly Sacramento Chapter, GGA. Social/Support, open to all crossdressers, transsexuals, and friends.

Services: Monthly meetings

Security: Prior to attendance, a meeting with a chapter officer.

SOCIETY OF JANUS - SACRAMENTO GROUP: c/o Box 13852, Sacramento, CA 95853-3852

Nature: For persons interested in B&D

EDUCATIONAL TV CHANNEL (ETVC): ETVC, Box 6486, San Francisco, CA 94101

Nature: ETVC is a delightful group of TVs, TS'S, TGs, Significant Others, and friends. It is intended as a social and educational group, to meet and have a good time as well as help educate the public. ETVC is non-sexual, and has an open

membership policy with approximately 165 members.

Services: ETVC publishes a bi-monthly newsletter ('The ETVC Newsletter'), provides a program of social and educational activities, and referrals.

Security: The mailing and membership lists are confidential. Only the officers are permitted access to either list, except in response to judicial process. No member shall reveal the true name, address, telephone number or profession of another member to anyone, except with the other member's express permission.

SIGNIFICANT OTHERS SUPPORT (S.O.S.): S.O.S., c/o ETVC, P.O. Box 6486, San Francisco, CA 94101

Nature: Affiliated with ETVC. An educational and support organization for the 'significant others' of cross-dressers and transsexuals.

Services: Meetings, newsletter

Security: See ETVC

GENDER IDENTITY ANONYMOUS (GIA): No mailing address available, but meets every Thursday in the Science of Mind Room at 3255 Balboa Street (near 34th Ave), San Francisco.

Nature: A non-judgmental transgender support group.

FEMALE TO MALE TRANSSEXUAL GROUP: The Billy DeFrank Community Center, 86 Keyes St., San Jose, CA (408) 293-4525, or, Hal, (408) 293-2429

Nature: Female to Male transsexual support.

HARRY BENJAMIN INTERNATIONAL GENDER DYSPHORIA ASSOCIATION (HBIGDA), 900 Welch Road #402, Stanford, CA 94304

Nature: A non-profit professional group with special interest in the area of gender dysphoria syndrome.

THE PACIFIC CENTER FOR HUMAN GROWTH, P.O. Box 908, Berkeley, CA 94701 (415) 548-8283 Allanya Guenther, Executive Director

Nature: The Pacific Center is a private, non-profit agency funded by United Way, county revenue sharing funds, sliding scale fees, and contributions. The Center is dedicated to providing high-quality services to sexual minority people of all races, ages, and backgrounds.

Services: Educational services and outreach into the community at large. Speaker's Bureau. Counseling. Group meetings. Hot line (415) 841-6224.

NORTHWEST - HAWAII

NORTHWEST GENDER ALLIANCE (N.W.G.A.): Box 4928, Portland OR 97208

Nature: N.W.G.A. is a non-profit non-sexual social organization serving the crossdressing community.

Services: The Northwest Chapter has at least one function each month. The days vary in order to allow all of our girls to attend as often as is possible. We also publish a monthly newsletter.

Security: Private interview with the chapter president.

SALMACIS, The Equalitarian Feminist Social Society, PO Box 1604, Eugene, OR, 97440-1604 Sally Ann Douglas, Social Director, Leslie-Shawn Witham, Hypnotherapist 503-688-4282 (Sally Ann, 6 - 11 p.m. PST)

Nature: Salmacis is a social and service society devoted to the concept of equalitarian feminism; supporting all those who desire to become women, or are women.

Services: Direct telephone counselling, contact with others who have similar interests, contact with our central organization, contact with other organizations, personal growth workshops. Also, publishes "Femmes Together", and "the Equalitarian Feminist."

SALISHON, The Womyn's Information Network PO Box 1604, Eugene, OR 97440-1604 Leslie-Shawn Witham, Director

Nature: Salishon is a service and information network for womyn who perceive themselves living an alternative lifestyle.

Services: The only femininity clinic for males and she-males that is run by a staff of professional women.

EMERALD CITY Box 31318, Seattle, WA 98103 Janice Van Cleve, Secretary

Nature: The Emerald City is a non-profit non-sexual organization providing social and educational services for the transvestite community of Seattle and the Northwest. Promotes positive public image in the media, in the professions, and in the business community. Provides assistance and opportunities for public presentation as well as pleasant private parties and good friendships. Independent organization but works closely with Ingersoll Gender Center and the Seattle Counseling Service.

Services: At least one function each month with updated listing of acceptable vendors and contacts to a wide variety of products and services. Monthly newsletter and educational services.

Security: Must be sponsored by an active, participating member or attend the TV/TS Support Group at the Seattle Counseling Service, and be accepted by an officer of the Emerald City. Mailing lists are strictly confidential.

THE INGERSOLL GENDER CENTER 4604 Stone Way N., Seattle, WA 98103 marsha Botzer, President, 206-281-0943

Nature: A non-profit organization serving the transsexual-transvestite community.

Services: Individual and group counseling, professional consultation to service providers, referrals, research, and public information presentation. Works closely with the Seattle Counseling Service.

NORTH AMERICAN TRANSVESTITE-TRANSSEXUAL TELEPHONE CONTACT SERVICE (NATTCS): 801 E. Harrison St, Suite 706, Seattle, WA 98102 (206) 624-8266 Executive Director Philip Salem

Nature: The NATTCS' s primary function is to act as a direct dating service for TVs, TSs and admirers. The Service has over 6200 contacts nationwide. We cater to the discriminating pre-op and post-op and professional women who enjoy the company of professional men whose hobby is cross-dressing.

Services: The Contact Service provides a 24 hour hotline for TVs, TSs and admirers throughout the country. It also provides information gratis on plastic surgery, electrolysis, and hormone therapy.

SEATTLE COUNSELLING SERVICE 1505 Broadway, Seattle, WA 98122 (206) 329-8707

Services: Counseling service for sexual minorities, weekly support group for TVs and TSs.

SEXUAL IDENTITY CENTER P.O. Box 3224, Honolulu, HI 96801-3224 (808) 926-1000

Services: Therapists, referrals, special support group for TVs and TSs.

CANADA

TRANSVESTITES AU MONTREAL (TAM): Box 1, 164 Station H, Montreal Que Can H3G-2N1 514-352-7481

Nature: TAMS is a non-profit non-sexual social organizations with an open membership policy.

Services: TAMS publishes a newsletter (The Garter Press), and has frequent social get-togethers.

Security: No particular requirements stated, but participants are expected to protect the security of all.

QUEBEC TRANSSEXUALS AID, INC. (A.T.Q. INC.): Viviane Belanger, 84 Boul. Des Allies, Quebec, Canada G1L 1Y2 418-648-1633

Nature: French speaking transsexual support.

Services: Meetings, medical referrals, etc.

METAMORPHOSIS MEDICAL RESEARCH FOUNDATION: P.O. Box 5963, Station 'A', Toronto, Ontario Canada M5W-1P4 416-532-5769 Rupert Raj, Exec. Dir.

Nature: Metamorphosis serves the Female to Male transsexual (gender dysphoric male).

Services: To provide research and information relevant to the F-M TS, to raise funds for research, to counsel the F-M TS, to educate the professional, para-professional and lay public on gender and sexual dysphoria, to provide peer support, and work cooperatively with other clinics and support groups.

TRANSSEXUALS IN PRISON, INC.: Office of Facilitator, Rupert Raj, P.O. Box 5963 Station A, Toronto, Ontario Canada M5W 1P4

Nature: A non-biased publication for transsexual and gay inmates, and those in the free world emphasizing medical needs, discrimination problems, case law.

FEDERATION OF AMERICAN AND CANADIAN TRANSSEXUALS (FACT): Box 291, Station 'A', Hamilton Ontario Canada L8N-3C8 416-529-7884 Susan Huxford, Dir.

Nature: FACT is a non-profit support organization for transsexuals, relatives and friends of transsexuals, professionals and para-professionals working in the field of gender dysphoria and others prepared to support the aims of the Foundation.

Services: Information distribution concerning transsexualism. Publishes 'Gender Review', a periodical news sheet. Offers peer support and peer counselling. Organizes support groups across Canada wherever these are feasible and has area representatives wherever possible. Provides speakers on transsexualism to the mass media and others. FACT Toronto meets each month on the evening of the second Friday at 519 Church St. Community Centre. Visitors welcome. Inquire to head office for other meetings. Chapters include:

South Central Ontario, c/o Miss Robin Marie Schwartzentruber, P.O. Box 1842, Station 'C', Kitchener, Ontario, N3G-4R3 576-5248

Eastern Ontario, Ottawa Valley, c/o Miss Nicole Boivin, P.O. Box 523, Gatineau, Quebec, J8P-7A1

Niagara Peninsula, c/o Miss Susan Huxford, P.O. Box 291 Station 'A', Hamilton, Ontario, L8N-3C8 529-7884

Montreal & Quebec Province, c/o Ms Patricia G.S. Fisher, C.P. 293, Succ. Cote Des Neiges, Montreal, Quebec, H3S 2S6

Atlantic Region U.S.A., Karen Aldrich, P.O. Box 9238, North Dartmouth, MA 02747

Pacific Region U.S.A., TS Counseling, 1550 California St., Suite 6201, San Francisco, CA 94109

Western New York Region, Miss Robyn Bates, PO Box 314, Buffalo, NY 14223

Security: No screening for members or subscribers to 'Gender Review'. Meetings of FACT Toronto meets each month on the evening of the second Friday at the '519 Community Centre'. Local groups establish their own security procedures, e.g. FACT Niagara meetings are by invitation only.

GENDERSERVE Box 291, Station 'A', Hamilton Ontario Canada L8N-3C8 416-529-7884 Susan Huxford, Dir.

Nature: Counselling education and research services, registered in Ontario as a proprietorship and operating as a non-profit organization serving TSs TVs and gender dysphoric people in general, homosexuals, wives, friends and relatives. Services for a nominal fee (to cover expenses). Inquiries by mail or phone. No collect calls. The proprietor has screened a number of professional organizations in the USA.

Services: Counselling in sexual matters for individuals and couples. Pastoral coun-

selling if requested. Referrals. Initial counselling session (mail or telephone) free of charge. Lectures, radio/TV and other mass media interviews by arrangement. Group counselling and therapy by request. Publishes booklets and papers of a professional counselling nature (reviewed in SIECUS Report). Public education by articles, etc. for press release. Role-playing and simulation exercises.

TRANSITION SUPPORT: Transition Support, c/o 2 2nd Ave, Apt 509, Toronto, ON Canada M4C 2C3
Nature: Transsexual support
Services: Monthly meetings, newsletter
Security: Inquire

GREAT BRITAIN

BEAUMONT SOCIETY Box 3084, London WC1N-3XX England
Nature: Beaumont is a non-profit non-sexual organization for heterosexual transvestites throughout Great Britain.
Services: Beaumont sponsors evening and weekend functions, provides counseling for TVs with problems, and a contact system for members. Beaumont also publishes two bi-monthly magazines, "The Beaumont Bulletin" which contains editorial notices, personal ads, a shopping guide, regional news, etc., and "Beaumag" which contains fictional, biographical or autobiographical stories. Beaumont also provides a library, legal advice, and a liaison and referral to other organizations. Beaumont has a network of organizations throughout Great Britain, and affiliations world-wide.
Security: Private interview with a qualified member.

TV/TS SUPPORT GROUP: Yvonne Sinclair, The TV/TS Group, 2/4 French Place, London England E1 6JB (off Bateman's Row) 01-359-4868 (8-10 p.m. Fri., Sat. & Sun.)
Nature: The TV/TS Group is a Registered Charity, and a member of the NCVO (National Council of Voluntary Organizations). Primarily a social/support organization for crossdressers, transsexuals, families and friends.
Services: Private facilities with comfortable lounges, storage, lockers, social areas etc. Friendly and informal social evenings every Saturday and Sunday. A helpline (01-729-1466, Tues. & Weds. 10:30 am - 4:30 pm, Fri. 2:30 - 4:30 pm, Fri. & Sat. & Sun. 8:00 - 10:00 pm). 24-hour answering machines and information. Peer support for crossdressers, transsexuals, and significant others. Publish the 'Glad rag' and other informational publications.
Security: Inquire

SELF HELP ASSOCIATION FOR TRANSSEXUALS (SHAFT): 46 Liddell Way, South Ascot, Berkshire, England SL5 9UX
Nature: Transsexual Support.

FRIENDS MERSEYSIDE 14 Colquitt St., Liverpool, England L1 4DE 051-708-0234
Nature: See 'Beaumont Society'

SCOTTISH TV/TS GROUP c/o SHRG 58a Broughton St., Edinburgh EH1 3SA Scotland (031) 556-4049

GENDER TRANSIENT AFFINITY: (Isle of Wight) GTA, c/o Miss Phaedra Kelly, Flat 5 Afton Lodge, Freshwater, Isle of Wight UK of GB
Nature: A non-profit organization dedicated to helping any transgendered person in any way possible.
Services: A network of friends communicating by mail. A "Global Village Project", which is a collection of groups and organizations from around the world designed to "cement the bond of mutual respect and affinity between us", publishing news from around the world, travel routes between countries, etc. A museum & library.

EUROPE

TRANS-CCL Rev. Joseph Douce, Centre du Christ Liberateur, Minorites Sexuelles, TRANS-CCL, 3 Bis, rue Clairaut, 75017 Paris - France Tel.(1) 226.70.48 (Rev. Douce speaks English)
Nature: TRANS-CCL is a non-profit social organization for sexual minorities, non-political, with Christian foundation, but also open to people with other convictions. We have a large section for transsexuals and transvestite, probably the largest one in Europe (about 500 contacts). We can provide legal, medical, psychological, pastoral and surgical help for transsexuals. We organize meetings, meals, etc... We have a large documentation on transsexuality. We can also provide all information available in Europe.
Services: A telephone help-line Mondays from 8p.m. to 10p.m. at (1) 627-4936. Meetings. Meals. Legal, medical, psychological and pastoral literature, and advisors.

FEMME TRAVESTIE 8023 Zurich, Switzerland Postfach 6788
Nature: Very active social group in Switzerland. Other details are unavailable at this time.

F.P.E. NORTHERN EUROPE: M.A. Postboks 192 DK2600, Glostrup, Denmark (Do not put F.P.E. on envelope)
Nature: See 'Beaumont Society'

ASSOCIATION BEAUMONT CONTINENTALE: Gaby Linsig, 2 Rue des Charpentiers, 68270 Wittenheim, France
Nature: See 'Beaumont Society'

FOREIGN

ELIZABETH CLUB Ant Trading Co., Sakata Building, 1-12 Iwamoto-cho Kanda, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 101, Japan

Nature: The Elizabeth Club was established in 1979 for transsexuals, androgynes, and transgenderists. We are located in major centers such as Tokyo, Osaka and Nagoya.

Services: We offer storage facilities for our members. We also have consultants available for helping members with make-up and dressing. There is a rental service of clothing, wigs, etc. for members. The Elizabeth Club also publishes a magazine called "Queen" every other month. The magazine serves as a source of information to members on activities and events in Japan.

THE SEAHORSE CLUB OF NEW SOUTH WALES - SYDNEY: The Secretary, P.O. Box 146, Ulladulla, New South Wales 2538 Australia

Nature: Seahorse Club is a non-profit social organization for transvestites and families. Seahorse welcomes new members, overseas visitors and offers support to those of us unable to emerge by means of affiliate membership.

Services: Seahorse distributes information on shopping, coming events, being femme by means of a monthly newsletter to members on a regular basis.Meetings provide friendship, beauty assistance, etc.

Security: Seahorse places strong emphasis on security for all members and requires screening of prospective members before attending meetings. However, no screening is required of affiliate members (who are not advised of the meeting places) unless they wish to become full members. Overseas members require screening in the same way and overseas visitors need to be either screened or have necessary accreditation from a similar organization (e.g. Beaumont Society, Tiffany's).

THE SEAHORSE CLUB OF VICTORIA (SCV): c/o GPO Box 2337V, Melbourne, VICTORIA, 3001 Australia, Jan Baxter, President

Nature: SCV is the longest continuously active club in Australia. A non-profit non-sexual social/support organization for cross-dressers and their families.

Services: Regularly publish the 'Seahorse Victoria Newsletter, social activities, outings, etc.

Security: Inquire

NEW ZEALAND - HEDESTHIA: Hedesthia Central, P.O. Box 78-026, Grey Lynn, Auckland 2, New Zealand

Nature: Affiliated with the Beaumont Society

SOUTH AFRICA - THE PHOENIX SOCIETY: P.O. Box 375, Parow 7500, Cape Town, Republic of South Africa, Marlene Knoetze Pres.

Nature: Affiliated with the Beaumont Society, the Phoenix Society is a non-profit, non-sexual social organization with an open membership policy.

Services: Publishes 'Fanfare' magazine, actively trying to change attitudes towards TVs in South Africa. Creating support groups in major cities. Provides contacts.

Security: New members are 'sponsored' by full members. All lists are confidential.

Post Office Box 184
San Juan Capistrano, CA 92693-0184
(714) 496-J2CP (714) 496-5227

J2CP Information Services

J2CP Information Services provides information/referral services formerly provided by the Erickson Educational Foundation and JANUS Information Facility. **J2CP Information Services** is a separate entity and is not affiliated with either of its predecessors.

J2CP Information Services provides an information package consisting of pamphlets and literature concerning gender dysphoria syndrome, transsexualism and transvestism. This information package is available at a cost of $25.00 to cover research, printing, postage and secretarial services. Additionally, **J2CP Information Services** will attempt to provide referrals to reputable counselors, psychotherapists, or gender programs, and peer groups near your home.

Certified checks or Money Orders should be made payable to **J2CP Information Services.** Please specify whether you are male-to-female, female-to-male, or transvestite when writing. If transsexual, please provide your place of birth.

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PERSONAL LISTINGS

How to respond to a Personal Listing:

1.) If the address is given, write directly to that address.

2.) If the address is Name & Membership #, follow these directions exactly:

A.) Place your letter in a stamped envelope. (No unstamped mail will be forwarded.)

B.) Pencil in the name and membership # of the person to whom the letter is meant. (i.e. 'Merrissa Lynn NH-0001). We need to be able to erase the identifying name and replace it with the forwarding name. Therefore, no letter with the identifying name in ink will be forwarded).

C.) Place that letter inside another envelope and mail to:

"Tapestry"
P.O. Box 19
Wayland, MA 01778.

Rhonda S. (MA-0317)

NEW ENGLAND

JUDY LEIGH S. (N.E. MA) 4/86
Member: Tiffany Club
Married TV, 47, 5'4", pleasant, shy.
"I enjoy all sports & travel & dance music, plus just having a good time with good friends. I like to get dressed & go for rides to visit other friends."
Judy S., c/o Box 19, Wayland, MA 01778

CHERYL H. (E. MA) 12/85
TV, 30, 5'6", 140, blue eyes, passes easily.
Enjoys skiing (downhill and XC), photography, cooking, shopping, and listening to jazz and, especially, doing all these things while dressed.
"I'd like to meet other TVs, particularly in the MA-NY region, and exchange letters with people from all over."
Cheryl H. (MA-0868)

VALERIE VINCENT (E MA) 9/85
Member: Tiffany
MWM TV, 5'10", 150, 43. Wears fingernails over 1" long, has picture album, makes convincingly attractive woman. Wants to be a professional Female Impersonator.
Loves dressing up, wearing exotic makeup, ultra femme clothes, and having the woman in me captured on film.
"I am now more TV free than ever before, but not as free as I will be next year. I am working toward a goal of having the courage to go into a club and entertain, and also go out in public whenever I wish."
Valerie V. (MA-0276)

REBECCA SUZANNE C (MA) 11/85
Member: Tiffany Club
DWM, 50s, 6', long-time cross-dresser
Enjoys golf, cooking, personal computing, and of course, being Suzanne.
"I am totally addicted to the joys of cross-dressing. I have an easy going personality and wish to establish friendship with other girls so we may share the joys and frustrations of our wonderful feminine world. I would like to hear from you.
Suzanne C (MA-0295)

SIOBHAN DONOVAN (MA) 12/86
Member: Tiffany
Participant: Tiffany's P-town Outing, Tiffany WSG Outing
MWM, 35, 6'2", 240, life long cross-dresser. Member Tiffany Board of Directors, Tapestry Staff.
Interests: C.B. radio, computers, graphic arts, sewing, cooking, cross-dressing (of course), and helping others.
Siobhan Donovan, c/o Box 19, Wayland, MA 01778

RITA HAMILTON (MA) 11/86
Member: Tiffany
MWM hetero TV, 34, 6', 140, attractive, sincere, sensitive and adventurous.
Interests: Science, music, dance, cross-dressing, and having fun in high heels.
"I like going places cross-dressed where fun & interesting things are happening. I'd also like to meet people who are interested in the same."
Rita Hamilton, c/o Box 19, Wayland, MA 01778

MARCIA JOHNSON (MA) 1/86
Attractive TV, 5'9", 140, 38
Interests: Jogging (finished Boston Marathon), golf, tennis, avid sports fan.
"I like to go shopping, party at clubs, and dine at fine restaurants. I'm friendly and outgoing. I would like to meet TVs, TSs who would enjoy dining out, dancing at clubs, and shopping at malls."
Marcia J (MA-0666)

Carol J. (MA-0541)

Carole-Anne P. (MA-1169)

CAROL J. (MA) 5/87
Member: Tiffany
Participant: Tiffany's P-town Outing
SWM TV into MTV (videos that is). Friendly, outgoing, rock musician, interested in high fashion, travel, Rock & Roll. "Yes, it's hip to be Square! - Ciao!"
Carol J. (MA-0541)

PAULA RIORDAN (MA) 10/86
Member: Tiffany
Participant: Fantasia Fair
MWM hetero TV, 50s, 5'8", 160, soft spoken, easy going, friendly.
Interests: History, philosophy, religion, cosmetology, fashion, cooking and ballet.
"I am happy being 'Paula', and I enjoy conversation & correapondence with frienda I have met through the Tiffany Club and the Tapestry. Although opportunities are limited, I pass fairly well, & enjoy going out with friends."
Paula Riordan, c/o Box 19, Wayland, MA 01778

JANICE H. (MA) 4/86
Member: Tri-Ess
Participant: Fantasia Fair (4 times)
DWM hetero TV, 60, 5'6", 150, brown hair and blue eyes. A little on the quiet side, but makes friends easily. Doesn't smoke.
Interests: Eating out in a nice restaurant, loves country music, good movies, and dressing up.
"Will answer all letters."
Janice H. (MA-0254)

SUSAN C. (E. MA) 3/87
Member: Tri Ess
Tall, slender, pleasant looking, novice cross-dresser with much to eagerly learn.
Interests: Cross-dressing (of course), movies, plays, reading, writing, soul-searching.
"I would like to write to someone of similar interests & stage of X-dressing development, 'real women', & more advanced TVs & TSs. I would like to both learn & teach."
Susan C. (MA-1238)

CAROLE-ANNE P. (E. MA) 12/86
Awards: Feminine Illusion Covergirl-'86
TV, 5'5", 130, 28.
Interests: Modeling, photography, traveling, video.
"I see myself as an overly passable, confident, caring and alluring 'young woman' (when dressed). I love quality people, places, stylish feminine fashion, and naughty lingerie. I would like to correspond with other TVs to share our knowledge and experiences."
Carole-Anne Petti, 438 Quincy Ave, Suite 104, Quincy, MA 02169

CHARISE MICHELLE S. (MA) 5/87
SWM, hetero, 33, 5'11", 160, fun loving, friendly, trustworth, dyed in the wool feminist.
Interests: Advancing my femininity & the woman within. Enjoys movies (sci-fi, comedy, romantic, music (no hard rock), cooking, computers.
"I am interested in making contacts in the TV/TS world. Will answer all. For those in E. MA. let's get together, cook up a storm & go see a movie."
Charise S. (MA-0427)

CAROLE TOWNSEND (SE MA) 9/86
Member: Tiffany
Married hetero TV, 40ish, passable with super effort.
Interests: Painting, drawing, model making, reading science fiction, and, of course, cross-dressing.
"I would like to hear from anyone with similar interests."
Carole Townsend, c/o P.O. Box 19, Wayland, MA 01778

SYLVIA C. (MA) 5/87
Member: Tri Ess
6'2", grey haired dedicated cross-dresser.
Interests: Cross-dressing, enjoying status as a woman whenever possible. "I love makeup, fancy dresses, high heels, nylons, etc. Enjoy being a girl."
Sylvia C. (MA-0189)

VALERIE PARKER (E. MA) 5/87
Member: Tiffany
Participant: Fantasia Fair
Awards: 'Miss Cinderella'
41, 6', 140, separated. "As a man I wear women's clothes & make-up almost every day. My nails are long and painted, and usually wear earrings. At work I'm still treated like any other engineer. Although I can 'pass', my dream is to just be myself. I would love to meet other like-minded people, male or female, for mutual support and sharing."
Valerie Parker, PO Box 2217, Peabody, MA 01960

CHERYL LYNN M. (MA) 12/86
Member: Tiffany
College student, 6', 22, with a pretty, slender figure.
Interests: Sports, music, acting. Also, sexy but tasteful feminine clothing, especially lace dresses and high heeled shoes.
"I would like to pursue further in my lifestyle as Cheryl, and hope to make friends with other TVs & TSs."
Cheryl Lynn Michaels (MA-1157)

SHARON Mc. (SE MA) 1/87
Member: Tiffany, FACT
Participant: Fantasia Fair
SWM TV/TS, 32, 5'11", 135, enjoys being feminine.
Enjoys travel, skiing, all types music, old coins & cars. Would like to correspond with other TVs & TSs her age with same interests.
Sharon Mc. (MA-0504)

CYNTHIA CRANE (SE MA) 1/87
MWM hetero crossdresser, 40, 6', sensitive and discrete.
Interests: Computers, telecommunications, video tape, music, TV fantasies & bondage, tight clothing correspondence with others of like interests.
"I love being dressed in nylon, satin, and leather. I would like to exchange books, fantasies, and thoughts about enforced crossdressing."
Cynthia C. (MA-0843)

LISA C. (E. MA) 1/87
Bi-WM, 27, 22, 5'10". Enjoys skiing, camping, sailing, going shopping, dressing up.
"I'm looking for someone to get me out of the closet. I also want to meet TVs & TSs for friendships."
Lisa C. (MA-1202)

LORRAINE L. (E. MA) 12/86
Member: Seahorse Club Australia, Tiffany
English, 31, TV since 12, with strong TS desires, passes easily, married.
"I want to meet TSs and TVs, and to be seen & treated as a woman."
Lorraine L. (MA-1156)

SUSAN ELIZABETH R. (MA) 1/87
SWM TV, 53, 6', 180, brown hair, hazel eyes.
Interests: Photography, treasure hunting, 40's & 50's music, dogs, nature, & being a lady.
"I would like to correspond with other girls in E. Mass., especially Metro-West area."
Susan Elizabeth R. (MA-0839)

ELLIE KAY (MA) 8/86
DWM, 5'6", 53, quiet and lives alone. Pleasant personality.
Interests: Model railroading, country music, and cross-dressing. Enjoys meeting people, and long rides & walks.
"I'm new to cross-dressing, and really can use all the help I can get. Would love to meet and correspond with others of same interests."
Ellie K. (MA-1076)

MARCIA G. (MA) 12/86
Member: Tiffany
MWM hetero, 5'7", 43, full figured, dark complexion. Likes to dress, especially for formal occasions.
Marcia Gilbert, P.O. Box 632, Littleton, MA 01460

Laura R. (MA-0874)

LAURA R. (W. MA) 12/85
SWM TV, 30's, 5'12", 145
Open minded, travel frequently, diverse interests including golf, tennis, billiards, Cape Cod weekends, theatre. Voracious reader. competent attractive guy and svelte, sensuous lady all in one. enjoys dating as girl or guy.
Laura R. (MA-0874)

BOBBI N. (E. MA) 1/87
SWM, 37, 5'9", 155
"I enjoy lingerie, nylons & sexy outfits. I have been interested in dressing since I was 12, but have not actively pursued until recently. Would like to meet or correspond with TVs, females or couples who could provide help and guidance. Travel East, Midwest & West extensively."
Bobbi N. (MA-1203)

JULIE COOK (E. MA) 5/86
Participant: Tiffany's P-town Convention
SWM, 38,5'9", 150, brown hair & eyes.
Interests: Camping, movies, rock music, and improving my feminine image. "I would like to meet others with mutual feminine interests."
Julie Cook, P.O. Box 801, Marlboro, MA 01752 1-617-485-5463

Christina S. (MA-0649)

Siobhan D. (MA-0605)

Janice H. (MA-0254)

Valerie V. (MA-0276)

BOBBIE B. (SE MA) 8/85

Bi WM, 5'6", 130, 49, average to good looks.

"I enjoy crossdressing from wig to heels. Would like to meet other bi or gay TVs or TSs to meet and enjoy each other's company. I live on the South Shore."

Bobbie B. (MA-0461)

JUDITH ANNE THOMPSON (SE MA) 6/86

Widowed WM crossdresser, 64, 175, intelligent, honest, retired. Good listener.

Likes nature photography, hiking, gardening, good music, living as 'Judy". "I would like contact with cross dressers in S.E. MA area for companionship, and like interests."

Judith T. (MA-0733)

LINDA LYNETTE DeMELLO (MA) 7/86

SWM pre-op TS, 5'6", 160, 35, brown hair, blue eyes, male appearance, female character.

"I need friends to help me cope with rejection, and to understand me. I need personal hands-on help with learning how to achieve & project a feminine image. Please be sincere."

Linda D. (MA-1058)

BRENDA H. (E. MA) 5/86

MWM TV, 35, 5'9", 170, shy.

Enjoys dressing, shopping, movies, travel, slow dancing.

"Due to circumstances, haven't been able to dress as often as I would like. I am now free to experience my desires. Would love to correspond with and possibly meet other TVs. could use advice and support."

Brenda H. (MA-0978)

SUSAN A. (SE MA) 5/86

MWM TV, 30's, 5'7", 140.

Interests: Collecting and wearing all kinds of lingerie, TV literature. Would like to meet others with similar interests. "I've been kind of away from the TV scene for a while, but am hoping to get active again soon.:

Susan A. (MA-0064)

SHARON P. (S.E. MA) 5/86

5'9", 175, shy, blue eyes, and very open. Enjoys anything soft and silky. "I love to find the real woman in me, and would like to hear from other bi TVs or TSs for support and friendship."

Sharon P. (MA-0592)

ROXANNE (RUSTY) GRANT (E MA) 4/86

SWM, 5'8", 33, slim, likes dressing but doesn't pass well. Quiet, private, discrete, intelligent, honest.

Interests: Music, dance, good fun and good friends. Enjoys sexy clothing & nylons. Enjoys sports, reading.

"I would like to meet other TVs or TSs for friendship. Not interested in short term friends. Would like help with make-up and someone tc have discrete talks with."

R. Grant, P.O. Box 161, Harwich, MA 02645

MICHELLE LANGE (E. MA) 6/86

MWM 40, 6', brown hair and hazel eyes.

Interests: Current events, sports, chess, household duties and everything feminine. Intelligent, professional, imaginative and daring person seeking a friendship with nice, caring, sincere person.

"I am an avid collector of TV, domination and discipline stories, and would like to share them with a similar type person."

Boxholder, P.O. Box 1065, Burlington, MA 01803

Suzanne C. (MA-0295)

SANDRA SCOTT (MA) 7/86
Member: Tiffany
Participant: Tiffany Spring Convention
SWM TV, brown eyes & hair, trim figure.
Enjoys skiing, bowling, crafts, and dancing. Wishes to meet people, make new friends, and learn to be as much a lady as possible.
Sandra S. (MA-0544)

CHRISTINA S. (E. MA) 12/85
Member: Tiffany
37, 5'11", 175. Married, life-long TV.
"I enjoy dressing and becoming a woman. I'm an accomplished cook, baker, photographer. I'd love to correspond with and possibly meet with other TVs to discuss mutual interests. Want to be out and among friends."
Christy S. (MA-0649)

MS JOAN ELIZABETH B (NE MA) 10/85
MWM TV, 30, 5'8", 150.
Interests: Outdoor activities in all seasons of the year, skiing, scuba diving, photography.
"I would like to meet others that can share in my interests, would like to meet another married couple in my area for friendship."
Joan B (MA-0138)

AUDREY M (Eastern MA) 8/86
MWM bi-TV, 52, 155, 5'10, nice, intelligent, well adjusted, sense of humor. Enjoys current events, music, sailing, photography, woodworking. Would like to have a few TV friends for casual get-togethers; freedom limited to weekdays 9-6.
Neil Moses, Box 66, Allston, MA 02134

SALLY ANN H. (E. MA) 5/86
Long time crossdresser, 32, 5'10", 160, recently out of closet.
Interests: Writing, photography, sports cars, femininity, and cross-gender politics/philosophy.
"I am interested in meeting and corresponding with anyone interested in cross-gender politics and social acceptance. I am newly out of the closet and need help in passing. Will answer all letters and would like to meet those with similar interests and those who can help me learn."
Sally Ann H. (MA-0999)

SUE FANON (W. MA) 6/86
SWM TV, 30, 5'10", slim, loving, and sincere.
Interests: Dressing up & being feminine, makeup, travel. "I'm new, easy going, and would like to meet others that would like to help me pass in public."
Sue F. (MA-0983)

RHONDA SMITH (MA & CA) 7/86
5/6", 130, single, EXOTIC.
Interests: Archery, atomics, lasers, professional photography, camping.
"I'm the only girl to have 3-D holographic portrait commissioned. Been to Hollywood and personally know most of the X-rated girls (Sulka, Nikko, etc.)."
Rhonda S. (MA-0317)

JACKIE C. (E MA) 9/85
SWM, 5'8", 175, 36, quiet, easy going.
Interests: Tennis, good movies, aerobics, wrestling, running.
"Looking for a non-smoker who is exercise oriented to dress with."
Jackie C. (MA-0799)

MERISSA SHERRILL LYNN (NH)
Executive secretary Tiffany Club, Managing Director Tapestry, Director I.F.G.E.
SWM TV, 44, 6', 200, BA philosophy, athletically oriented (pro skier 8 years), ACBL (bridge) life master. A caring person, sincerely interested in the well-being of others.
Interests: Folk singing, bridge, skiing, the wilderness, the flowers, and listening to the birds sing. Also interested in philosophy.
"I'm sorry but I cannot respond to personal correspondence. However, I'm very interested in hearing from people who would like to become 'leaders', and are willing to put out some effort on behalf of the TV/TS Community. So, if you are a leader-type person and willing to put out some effort to help others, write to me, or better, give me a call."
Merissa Sherrill Lynn, Box 19, Wayland MA 01778 (617)358-5575

JERI F. (N NH) 9/85
Single, 5'10", 166, 38, lives conservative rural lifestyle.
Interests: Nylons, high heels, makeup, rubber lingerie, wigs, lipstick & everything feminine.
"Searching for a compassionate female-TV-TS who can understand the delights of feminine clothing, and who is very open and willing to be flexible to make a relationship work."
Jeri F. (NH-0820)

JACKIE MCDONALD (NH) 10/86
Member: Tiffany
Participant: P-town Spring Outing, P-town WSG Outing, Poconos
MWM, crossdresser, 40ish, 6'1", 180, reasonably attractive.
Interests: Swimming, needle work, woodwork, micro computers. Loves shopping, long walks, & koffee klatching. Also, is very interested in helping people.
Jackie McDonald, c/o Box 19, Wayland, MA 01778

CAROLE T. (NH) 5/87
Love music, theatre, cooking and being Carole. Just coming out after many false starts. Anxious to correspond with and meet others. Will answer all ASAP! Pictures appreciated.
Carole Thomas, PO Box 3057, Nashua, NH 03060

Merissa L. (NH-0001)

Dolly B. (NH-0648)

Abby G. (NH-0731)

MARGO F. (NH-1266) 5/87
5'7", 155, WM.
Interests: Guitar playing, furniture building, skiing, biking, hiking, talking about new ideas. "Have always felt the woman in myself, but have never acted on it. Now I would like to communicate with others, especially couples who have adjusted to the TV lifestyle. Would love to have someone special dress me up."
Margo F (NH-1266)

NANCY MARIE T. (NH) 9/86
MWM, 5'9", 155, 31, married to understanding accepting woman.
Enjoys shopping trips, dressing-up and being feminine, videos, reading. Would like to discreetly exchange cross-dressing experiences with other married TVs. Correspondence or meetings possible.
Nancy T. (NH-1062)

KAREN JANE M. (NH) 7/86
DWM hetero TV, 44, 6'1", size 16, honest, caring.
Interests: Music, reading, cooking, travel, motor cycles. Looking for honest, caring and helpful individuals, TVs or females.
Karen M. (NH-0689)

CHRISTINE K. (NH) 5/86
MWM, 31, 6', 170, blonde hair, blue eyes.
Interests: Makeup, sexy clothes, wigs, outside activities, karate, & computers.
"Would like to find pen pals and TV friends all over the world. Possibly meet or just swap photos and letters. Not into anything phony, just want good honest friends."
Christine K. (NH-0928)

JEAN S. (NH) 4/86
WM, 41, 5'8", 163, blue eyes.
Interests: Biking, running, cross-country skiing, shopping for female clothes, listening to music.
"I have been a cross-dresser since 15. I am looking to make new friends like myself. I need the support. I am also looking forward to going out dressed."
Jean S. (NH-0930)

CHRISTINA MARIE L. (NH) 6/86
SWM crossdresser, 32, interested in harmony with nature.
"I like outdoor activities such as gardening, canoeing, fishing, skiing, hunting, skating, hiking. Would like to meet other crossdressers with similar interests."
Christina L. (NH-0709)

JONI G. (SE NH) 5/86

MWM TV, 42, 5'11", 160, good looking as male. Enjoys swimming, boating, reading. Has excellent outlook on life, good personality.

Joni G. (NH- 0991)

ABBY MARIE GREENE (NH) 6/86

M-F TS, lifelong personality. Living as female, under doctor's care for all aspects of gender change. Interests are music, outdoor life and all feminine ways of life. Enjoy correspondence and will answer all reasonable letters.

Abby Marie Greene, P.O. Box 218, W. Franklin, NH 03235

DOLLY BAKER (NH) 12/85

Member: Tiffany

MWM, hetero, 60, 6'2", 195. Friendly, good sense of humor, trustworthy.

Interests: Feminine fashions, nature, art, music (classical, big band, jazz), photography.

"Trying desperately to come out without alienating a disapproving family. Want to develop kindred contacts throughout country for visits during my frequent business travels. Enjoy girl-talk, shopping. Correspondence is invited, welcomed and answered."

Ms Dolly Baker, Box 7425, S. Nashua, NH 03060

PAULA KAY (NH) 12/85

33, 6', 170, brown hair, hazel eyes.

Interests: Warm weather fishing, hinting, camping, the ocean, sexy lingerie, and getting out of the closet.

"I am down to earth, easy to get along with, and quiet. I am feminine when dressed, and want to meet other TVs for dressing together. Would also like to meet females and couples."

Paula K. (NH-0596)

CAROL ANN DURETTE (NH) 3/86

Bi WM TG, blue eyes, brown hair, 5'9", 180, lives full time as a woman.

Interests: Reading, writing, folk & soft rock music, romantic interludes.

"I need help finding hormones to further my feminization process. Also looking for someone with whom I can spend my life (M, F, TV, TS, TG)."

Carol Ann Durette, P.O. Box 686, Meredith, NH 03253

ROBIN R. (NH) 8/86

Member: Tri Ess

6'2", 180, 50, married to understanding wife (mbr Tiffany's Wives Support Group).

Interests: Wood working, good television, science, dining out, and walking.

"I will answer letters, and would like to hear from sisters in New Hampshire."

Robin R. (NH-0757)

HELEN T. (NH) 12/86

Member: Tiffany

Participant: Fantasia Fair, Tiffany's P-town Outing, Tiffany WSG Outing

MWM TV, 47, 5'11". Tiffany Board of Directors. Hopes to make social contacts within the TV-TS Community.

Helen T., c/o Box 19, Wayland, MA 01778

Karen Ann N. (ME-0787)

KAREN ANN N. (ME) 8/86

Member: Tiffany

Participant: Tiffany's P-town Outing

MWM hetero cross-dresser (since adolescence), 5'4", 130, friendly, happy, enjoys people, places, & things.

Interests: Photography, walking, clothes, dining out, shopping, nature.

"I would enjoy corresponding and exchanging photos with other crossdressers. I would also enjoy discreet shopping trips and dining out while dressed."

Karen Ann N (ME-0787)

Lee A. (ME-0247)

LEE A. (ME) 6/86

MWM closet TV, 55, 5'10", brown hair, good personality.

Enjoys dressing and becoming a woman, corresponding and/or meeting others who enjoy dressing in attractive clothes and high heels. Also enjoys jogging, fishing, hunting, bridge and pinochle.

"I will be spending a lot of time in Florida and am hoping for social contacts there and along the way. All mail will be answered."

Lee A. (ME-0247)

SARAH B. (ME) 12/85

WM TV, 5'7", 135, 30

Interests: Skiing, hiking, feminine clothing, actually a little bit of everything.

"I'm just coming out and would love to hear from others, of their experiences, and of the finding their fem self."

Sarah B. (ME-0862)

BOBBIE JEAN G. (ME) 11/86

5'10", 170, military officer, sometimes passible, wishes to understand crossdressing & TS psychologially and medically. Needs to speak with TSs to discuss what they hat to sacrifice to be TS. Professional medical person needs more personal experienced information. Would like to start a club in Maine.

Bobbie G. (ME-1155)

ALICIA EVANS (ME) 5/85

WM M-F pre-op TS, 31, 6', 150.

Interests: Music (pop/rock writer/performer), outdoors, people, politics, philosophy, computers, psychology, and all feminine things.

"I have many hetero friends who accept me for who I am and encourage me to be all I can be, but I would like to meet other TSs and TVs and become active in the Paraculture. Letters, photo, phone communication also desired. Please write."

Alicia Evans, Box 1056, Westbrook, ME 04092

PAULA B. (ME) 5/87

Married WM, 5'9", 165, 43, almost hairless from head down. Loves crossdressing, outdoor activities, sports, interior decorating, cooking.

"I want to meet and correspond with other crossdressers, pre-op TSs, etc. for mutual friendships, education, and fun."

Paula B. (ME-1300)

GWENNETH H. (ME) 5/87

5/7", 35, very early in planned transition

Interests: Reading science fiction, working around house.

"Very little experience. Have not 'come out' in public, but am working toward that happy moment."

Gwenneth H. (ME-1270)

JONI HOLLAND (VT) 8/85

Married TV, 6'1", 165, 34, long brown hair, loves life, outgoing, but always busy.

Enjoys doing hair, yours or mine, running, canoeing, skiing, always in some way feminine at work or play.

"I'm interested in meeting and writing to TV-TS women in New England. Come on up and have your hair curled."

Joni H (VT-0782)

JANINE BRIDGET (RI) 7/86

Pre-op TS, 5'9", 140, auburn hair blue eyes.

Interests: Computers, photography, Sci-Fi, sewing, embroidery.

"I would like to meet individuals who can teach me to be confident in the female role I wish to lead."

Jan, P.O. Box 562, Coventry, RI 02816

Diantha K. (VT-0214)

DIANTHA KAY (VT) 7/86

Member: Tiffany, TV Entertainers, TAM

Gender Community advocate; interested in developing close lasting friendships. Serious, sincere, supportive, fun loving. Enjoy life, people, open sharing dialogue, resisting adulthood, and above all simply being me. Avid correspondent. Many interests. M to F gender person, Sagittarian, 12-12-37, Nordic origins, fair, blonde, blue eyes, 5'11", 160.

D. Kay, Box 264, Vergennes, VT 05491

MARCIE P. (RI) 9/85

MWM, 5'5", 185, 29.

Interests: Scuba diving, photography, boating, sci-fi books and fine art of cross-dressing.

"I've been told I'm passable, but haven't tried yet. Looking for 'sisters' in my general area with similar interests, but will answer all. Come on girls, let's be friends!"

Marcie P. (RI-0806)

JANET PATTERSON (RI) 5/87

MWM TC, 50s, young looking, passable, college educated.

Interests: Swimming, golf, photography, computers and crossdressing. Seeking friendship, photo exchange, correspondence and possible meeting with other TVs. Will answer all.

J. Patterson, PO Box 1067, Westerly, RI 02891

Janine Bridget D. (RI-0331)

JAIME R. (RI) 7/86

Pre-op TS, 5'9", 148, brown eyes & hair, friendly, helpful.

Enjoys rock & roll, country music, and gardening. Wants to make friends, and meet other people with the same interests, who want to enjoy life.

Jaime R. (RI-0300)

BOBBIE J. (RI) 5/86

WM, hetero, 50's, 5'9", quiet and private with good sense of humor.

Enjoys sexy feminine clothing and lingerie including high heels and makeup. Would like to meet

those with similar interests and compare photos and clothing.
Bobbie J. (RI-0927)

SHARON LYNN G. (RI) 6/86
DWM hetero TV, 39, 5'4", shy, conservative, sensitive.
Interests: Crossdressing, hiking, reading (esp sci-fi), computers.
"I've been a life-long TV, but have just discovered our community. I'd like to meet other members and friends of our world, to be myself without being alone."
Sharon G. (RI-0947)

Dee Dee W. (CT-0002)

DEE DEE W (Hartford CT) 3/86
I'd like the girls at Tiffany
Who like to write,
To write to me.
A photograph, a kindly note
Will make me say,
"I'm glad she wrote."
Dee Dee W (CT-0002)

MICHELLE STEVENS (CT) 5/86
Tall, hazel eyes, dark red curly hair, good figure, outgoing, fun loving.
Interested in dressing & being with people who enjoy the same.
Michelle S. (CT-0942)

Carla Goldsneider (CT-0212)

CARLA E. GOLDSNIDER (CT) 6/85
SWM hetero TV, 53, 5'10", quiet, not pushy, very understanding.
"I love to crossdress. Would like to meet TVs and females for girl talk and develop friendships. Also like to go out in public dressed - told I pass easily. I'm single and live alone in a small house in the country."
Carla E. Goldsnider, 3741 South St., Coventry, CT 06238

DAWN H. (CT) 11/85
Participant: Fantasia Fair
SW M-F TS, 39, 5'10", 145.
Interests: Reading, boating, water skiing, outdoors, shopping.
"I am interested in learning how to become a total woman. Also interested in corresponding with others of like feelings in SE CT and RI."
Dawn H. (CT-0858)

DONNA C. (CT) 8/85
"I'm interested in crossdressing, and meeting people to make new friends. Please be discreet in contacting me. All letters will be answered right away."
Mr. D. Clarke, P.O. Box 263, Ledyard, CT 06339

SANDY JOHNSON (CT) 8/85
Hetero life-long crossdresser, 5'11", 200, 24, brown hair, brown eyes, has nice legs, married.
Interests: Music, going for walks, dancing, being myself, silk dresses and nylons and heels.
"I'm interested in sharing my experiences with others. I would like to meet others in the Hartford, CT area for friendly conversation and support. I'll answer all sincere replies."
Sandy J. (CT-0791)

BARBARA C. (CT) 3/86
TV, 44. Wishes to meet others who like to dress and wish to further their experiences with another friend. Am totally open minded and willing to try anything within reason at least once. Travel New England, New York, and New Jersey. Want to further my way out of the closet. Would also love to meet with a couple.
Barbara C. (CT-0404)

CATHY ERIN (CT) 3/86
"I've been crossdressing for over 30 years. I live full time as a female. I love people, good times, and music."
C. Erin, P.O. Box 231, East Haddam, CT 06423

DONNA P. (CT) 1/86
MWM, 43, 5'8", 200
Interests: Sailing, scuba diving, walking, plays, good movies, pops concerts, photography, dining out.
"I'm finally in a position to explore my feelings fully. My partner fully accepts and encourages me. I cannot pass, but I would like to hear from sisters who can help."
Donna P. (CT-0875)

DARLENE S. ROSS (CT) 10/85
MWM, 50s, 5'8", 165, shy.
Interests: Photography, sports, travel, all kinds of music, reading, especially getting completely dressed.
"I'm interested in communicating with other TVs or understanding females to help me to come out of the closet and advise me as to my difficulties in becoming the woman I would like to become."
Ms Darlene S. Ross, Suite 114, 167 Cherry St, Box 3894, Milford, CT 06460

DENISE MASON (CT) 5/86
Married TV, very feminine with interest in exotic hairdos & makeup. Very receptive wife allows TV, couple friendships. Will write and exchange photos. Can help others 'come out'. Active in CT and is forming a group in the SE CT area.
Denise Mason, P.O. Box 2281, Devon, CT 06460

JOAN H. (CT) 7/86
SM, 5'8", 170, 64, brown hair, blue-grey eyes, somewhat introverted but friendly & honest. Enjoys bicycling, hiking, and has many varied interests.
Joan H. (CT-1057)

KATHY S. (CT) 5/86
Married hetero, 27, crossdressing since early teens. "I have an understanding attractive wife who shares in my crossdressing. Would like to meet other TV couples."
Kathy S. (CT-0988)

ANDREA G. (CT) 5/86
Member: Tri Ess
MWM hetero TV, 47, 5'11", 160
Interests: TV fiction, golf, racquet ball, reading, good restaurants. "I'd like to get to know my sisters & myself better. I enjoy one on one get-togethers rather than large gatherings."
Andrea G. (CT-0425)

MICHELLE N. (CT) 5/86
WM bi TV, 37. Would like to meet others in CT area. Would like to go shopping with other girl friends.
Michelle N. (CT-0948)

JACKIE DEE (CT) 4/86
Mature white TV, 5'11", 170, college educated, discrete, sensitive, gentle, caring.
Loves the beautiful, femme world that being a TV encompanies, scented bubble baths, silky feminine undies & lingerie. Do Write. Will answer.
Jackie D. (CT-0929)

DEVON A. (CT) 5/87
Member: XX Club
SWM pre-op TS, 31, 5'11", 145
Interests: Literature, writing (fiction), classical music, Beatles, computers.
"I've known I was TS since early childhood, but I'm only now coming out. I have been on hormones 3 months. I'm shy and scared. Tend to be a loner, but I make good, though not lots of friends. I would like to correspond with others with similar likes and fears."
Devon A. (CT-1267)

SAL C. (CT) 5/87
Retired, lifelong closet TV. I would like to hear from anyone who knows of TVs or TSs in combinations with blindness.
Occupant, PO Box 8150, Manchester, CT 06040

PAULA S. (CT) 5/86
WM TV, 6', 170
"I am interested in boating, skiing, shopping, girl talk, and meeting other people like myself."
Paula S. (CT-0920)

AMANDA JOSEPHS (CT) 11/86
Member: Tiffany, Tri Ess, NGA
MWM hetero TV, 52, 5'9", 148, prim, proper, passable. Prefers one on one situations.
Interests: Classical music, museums, theatre, foreign films, old cars, and economics.
Amanda Josephs (CT-0290)

DAWN H. (CT) 12/86
Member: Tiffany
SWM, 5/10", 40, slim build, college educated, enjoys the company of others.
Interests: Being feminine as much as possible, camping, water skiing, loves summer and Florida.
"I would like to be able to go out as my femme self more. Would like to correspond with others of similar interests."
Dawn H (CT-0858)

JENNIFER W. (CT) 1/87
"I enjoy swimming, reading, music (esp C&W), and of course crossdressing. Have loving understanding wife who just loves Jennifer. I would like to meet any & all TVs like myself, and couples. Am very sincere."
Jennifer W. (CT-0921)

JACKIE D. (CT) 4/86
Very femme, lifelong TV, white, slender (5'11", 155), discrete, mature, caring.
"I adore all aspects of our utterly sensuous lifestyle. Keep body hair free, constantly powdered, cologned. Always wear silky panties, frilly lingerie, loungewear. Enjoy corresponding with similar types anywhere."
Jackie D. (CT-0929)

NEW YORK

BETTY PRINCE (NYC) 5/87
Blonde, 5'7", white, good looking, pleasant personality, fun loving.
Interests: Movies, bowling, baseball, football, chess, reading sci-fi.
"I love NY Yankees, go to as many games as I can, will play any sport or see almost any movie."
Betty P. (NY-1304)

ROY E. (NYC NY) 2/87
Member: Eulenspiegel
Attractive, 36, hetero, long standing interest in his feminine aspects. New to crossdressing. Enjoys the arts, writing, reading, high technology, music.
"I would like to correspond with and possibly meet post-op M-F TSs in the NYC area."
Roy E., 88 Bleecker St, Apt 2M, NYC NY 10012

JAN ALYCE V. (NYC NY) 12/86
SWM TV, 39, 5'11", 175. Has recently resumed crossdressing after a 9-year absence.
"I enjoy ballet & opera, and running for physical & mental well being. I want to move further out of the closet & develop Jan's femininity. I would enjoy corresponding to share experiences & provide mutual support in feminine development."
Jan V (NY-1187)

VICKIE S. (L.I. NY) 5/87
Member: LIFE, Chi Delta Mu
Married, hetero. "I enjoy water & downhill skiing, photography, music, song writing, working-out. My wife does not approve. I'm basically closeted, but I enjoy being a TV and dress whenever the opportunity arises."
Vickie Stone, Box 121, Seaford, NY 11785

JOANNE R. (L.I. NY) 5/86
"I'm 35, 5'9", and a gender troubled novice cross-dresser. I enjoy shopping, baseball, rock & roll, and am interested in making friends. I can be a lot of fun, but I need a push."
Joanne R. (NY-1004)

Denise M. (CT-1014)

REGINA S (NYC NY) 10/85
Member: NYC GGA, TS Voice
Age 39, gender-troubled person. Has TS feelings but very novice at 'dressing'. Is very shy, serious and conservative by nature.
Interests: Classical and old-time pop music, history, literature, philosophy/theology.
"I want to greatly enhance my femininity and become more comfortable with myself and others."
Regina S (NY-0383)

JEANETTE M. (NYC NY) 11/86
Member: Tiffany
MWM Older TV, 5'10", 145, blue eyes, 2" long fingernails, slim, good looking, passable, sociable.
Interests: Photography, travel, pets, fashion, makeup, long nails. Also, all TV/TS femme activities, makeup, fashion, golf, good restaurants, cruising Caribbian, shopping. Wants to make some lasting friendships.
Jeanette M (NY-1149)

KATE MORRISEN (L.I. NY) 9/86
Member: Butterfly
MWM hetero TV, 6'1", 40, attractive when dressed, but still in the closet.
Interests: Writing, music, computers, biking and photography. Loves collecting and wearing all feminine clothing, especially lingerie.
"I want to hear from all other TVs, TSs, and women. Let's share our ideas bout dressing up as well as exchanging our feminine fantasies."
Kate Morrisen, P.O. Box 20, Jericho, NY 11753

BARBARA B. (LI NY) 5/86
Member: NYC Chapter
Participant: Tiffany's P-town Convention, Poconos Outing
MWM, 46, 5'10", 155, wife does not approve. Helpful, honest, discreet, values same in others.
Interests: All kinds of music, dancing, fashion, friends.
"Although a lifelong cross-dresser, circumstances have recently forced me 'back into the closet', However, I will always remember and continue to support my sisters and friends."
Barbara B. (NY-0258)

TERI WHITE (S. NY) 3/87
Member: Tri Ess, NYGA
Participant: Fantasia Fair, Poconos W/E
SBM CD, 30's, 5'7", 190, soft spoken, sociable, conservative, friendly.
Interests: Cooking, graphic art (cartooning), music (pop - classical).
"I have a strong involvement in Tri-State (NY, NJ, CT) community. Interested in networking and friendships for better communication throughout the sisterhood."
Teri W. (NY-1241)

DIANE SLOTE (S.E. NY) 5/87
MWM, 39, enjoys music, camping, photography, fashion, & above all else, being feminine whenever possible. I'm interested in corresponding & meeting with people who will accept me as a woman. Due to family considerations, I'm unable to socialize much.
Diane S. (NY-0990)

DELORES MERHIGE (NY) 2/87
Member: NYGA, Serenity, L.I.F.E., Chi Delta Mu (President)
Participant: Fantasia Fair, Poconos W/E, 'Coming Together'
Married, middle-aged, 5'10", med build, engineer, life long TV.
Interests: Fashion, clothes, makeup, socializing, music, art, photography, sailing, tennis, reading.
"Promis to answer all mail as quickly as possible."
Delores Merhige, P.O. Box 327, Massapequa Park, NY 11762

JOSEPHINE C. (NY) 12/86
Member: Tri Ess, Beaumont, Tiffany
Hetero TV, 50, 5'7", 155, blue eyes, brown hair, married.
Interests: Music, literature, theater, cooking, house keeping, photography, and expressing my feminine side.
"I'm seeking other TVs and understanding female friends for talking. Also, want to correspond and exchange photos and share experiences. Promise to reply."
Josephine Chara, P.O. Box 671, Tarrytown, NY 10591

LONNA JOAN CARR (E. NY) 6/86
Member: Tri Ess
Mature, 50-ish, attractive, very good femme figure, successful RE broker.
Interests: Music, theatre, jogging, shopping, dancing, socializing as a girl. "Let's get to know each other."
Ms Lonna Joan Carr, Box 763, Jericho, NY 11763

Camile Mc. (NY-0582)

Josephine L. (NY-0880)

Dolores M. (NY-0808)

Barbara B. (NY-0258)

Terri W. (NY-1241)

THERESA W. (E. NY) 7/86
Member: NYC-GA
Hetero TV, 37, married with children.
Interests: Shopping, & dressing up. Would like to meet people with same interests because wife is just tolerable of me.
Theresa W. (NY-1046)

SANDRA F. (E. NY) 7/86
Female (was unhappy TS until recently), 5'10", 65, blonde, brown eyes.
"I'm trying to organize Metropolitan NY Gender Identity Center (similar to Denver) with professional advisors. Would appreciate help from residents of NYC & L.I. Particularly want to get support groups started for parents, children, and spouses of TSs and cross-dressers."
Sandra F., P.O. Box 7301-A, Hicksville, NY 11802

LYNDA D. (SE NY) 8/85
MWM TV, 32, 6'1", discreet.
"I'm interested in meeting other TVs and understanding females for help and friendship. If sensible and discreet, I will answer all letters."
Lynda D. (NY-0775)

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LYNDA D. (E. NY) 8/86

MWM TV, 33, shy.

Would like to learn more about dressing, make-up & mannerisms. Would like to correspond and also meet others who are sensible & discreet.

Lynda D. (NY-0775)

CAMILE MC. (SE NY) 7/86

Member: Tiffany Club, Chi Delta Mu Tri-Ess

Hetero crossdresser, 72, 5'10", 164, methodist, widower. Honest, & security conscious. Doesn't drink, smoke, or gamble. Loves & enjoys people, and lives by the old-fashioned 'golden rule', and a strict moral code.

Enjoys crossdressing, & repairing things around the house. Loves C&W music, writes music & plays various instruments. Taught drumming.

"I'm a widower for 7 years, and would love to meet a nice woman who will accept me part time en femme, or better, as 'sister companion', and sometimes as male companion."

C.A.M. Mc., Box 207, Pelham, NY 10803

WINNIE BRANT (N. NY) 5/86

Member: Tiffany, Tri-Ess, EON

Participant: Fantasia Fair, DREAM, Tiffany's Convention

Awards: Miss Fantasia Fair

Hetero TV, 53, 6'2", a lady. Has many interests, scientific and culturally oriented. Loves to travel.

Mr W. Brant, Box 741, Schenectady, NY 12301

GINNY ALLISON D. (N. NY) 2/87

"I am interested in contactin, writing, and meeting others to build friendships and self confidence. I would like to improve enough to pass."

Ginny Allison D. (NY-1223)

AMANDA WALTER (N. NY 5/87

MWM, 39, close to passing.

Interests: Art, classical music, high-end audio, skiing.

"Would like to hear from sisters who also have successful relations with wives, girlfriends. What is your secret?"

Amanda Walter, Box 4030, Glens Falls, NY 12801

JOAN FASHIONS (N. NY) 2/87

Member: Tri Ess, NGA

MWM TV/TG, 5'10", 165, 52. Spends most weekends as Joan. Family very supporting. Complete freedom of expression. Active in NYC meetings and parties. Travel, shopping, weekend hotels, restaurants are all part of Joan's activities. Letters with photo will receive prompt response.

Joan Fashions, P.O. Box 1756 S. Rd Annex, Poughkeepsie, NY 12603

Pam Van Buren (NY-0253)

RENEE CHEVALIER (N. NY) 12/86

Member: Tiffany, TGIC, EON, Butterfly, I.F.G.E. Board of Directors

Participant: P-town WSG Outing, Wine Country WE

Awards: The MSL Service Award

MWM, 5'9", 150, passable at times, a supporter and hard worker on gender issues. Editor TGIC Newsletter.

Interests: Varied and many, photography, carpentry.

"I enjoy helping others through TGIC and bringing out newcomers to the Community."

Renee Chevalier, P.O. Box 13604, Albany, NY 12212-3604

PAM VAN BUREN (N. NY) 5/86

Participant: Fantasia Fair '80 - '85

Awards: Miss Femininity '84, Miss Provincetown '85

TV, 33, 5'8", 130, quiet, caring, and good humored. Passes well and enjoys shopping, dining out, and traveling. Enjoys skiing, sailing, making clothes, playing music, and being a woman as much as possible.

Pam is interested in meeting and corresponding with people throughout the country, especially in the Eastern NY Western New England area.

Pam V. (NY-0253)

CHERYL McBRIDE (N. NY) 7/86

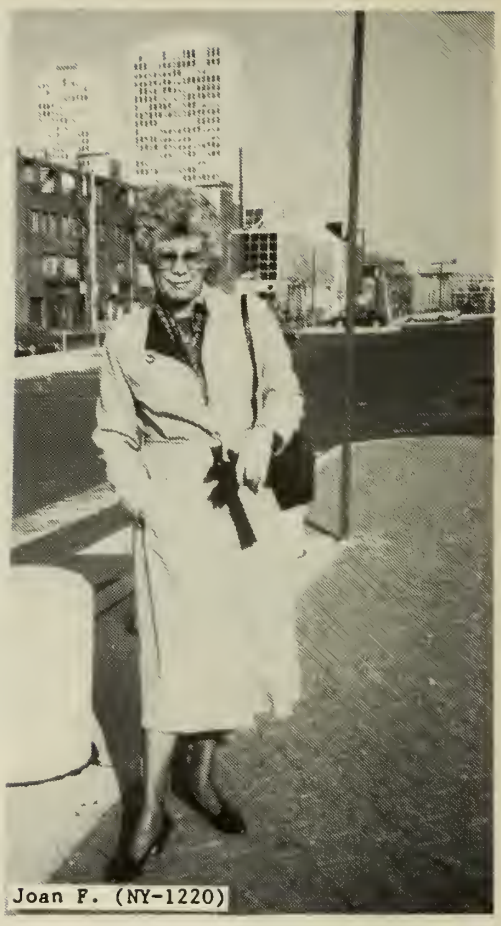
Member: Tiffany, TV Entertainers

Participant: Tiffany's Spring Convention, Fantasia Fair

35, 5'7", 145, gregarious, helpful.

Interests: X-C skiing, year-

Renee C. (NY-0664)



Joan F. (NY-1220)

round camping, cycling, dancing, interesting people, lively parties, photography.

"I'm interested in helping others in our culture. sincerely am fascinated by people. Intend to make my crossdressing part of my life, and not my life's central focus."

Cheryl M. (NY-0350)

TRENNA MARIE M. (W. NY) 12/86

Member: Tri Ess

Participant: Wine Country WE

Hetero TV, 62, 178, 5'8", has been dressing 52 years. Supportive wife.

Interests: Winston Cup stock car racing, railroading, sewing, being feminine.

"Love to go out dressed, but can't in my area. Love to write and will answer all."

Trenna Marie (NY-0623)

DONNA MARIE H. (W. NY) 5/86

Member: Eon (co-founder), Tri Ess

Hetero male, 5'7", 160, brown hair, blue eyes. Married to a very supportive wife, have four understanding children.

Interests: Camping, model cars & R.R. modeling, perfection of my feminine image.

Donna Marie H. (NY-0670)

"Love working with & helping couples, and those new to crossdressing."

Donna H. (NY-0670)

SHANNON MICHAELS (W. NY) 8/86

Member: Butterfly

SWM-F post-op TS.

Interests: Travel, motorcycling, camping, art, photography, & butterflies.

"I'm interested in meeting TVs and other TSs. Try to dedicate much of my free time educating the community. It always gives me pleasure when someone is helped. I feel that since I no longer teach art it is no reason that I can't teach."

Shannon Michaels, P.O. Box 5071, Vestal, NY 13851

JANE MURPHY (W. NY) 6/86

Member: Butterfly

SWM TV, 23, 6'11".

Interests: Camping, sports, writing, computers, and the feminine way.

"I'm out of the closet to stay and am looking to correspond with all. It's great to be young and able to enjoy today's fashions. I travel to some of the major cities, maybe we can get together for a night on the town!"

Jane Murphy, c/o P.O. Box 35, Endicott, NY 13760

HAZEL FORGNONE (W. NY) 4/86

64 years young - nice Victorian small waisted Gibson Girl figure, young looking, spry, graceful.

Interests: Fashion design historian - especially Victorian.

"I dress feminine under my street clothes, including corsets, at all times. I dress every night at home. Visitors welcome, but please call."

Miss Hazel Forgnone, Box 681, Batavia, NY 14020 716-343-1191 after 6:00 p.m.

SARA ANN HARRIS (W. NY) 11/85

Member: EON

Pre TS, 29, 5'9", 135, brown eyes, brown hair. Slim, feminine, attractive, professional, pleasant young lady. Have worked and lived full time as a woman since mid '84.

Interests: Fashion modeling, travel, shopping, dining out, live entertainment, horse back riding, tennis, skiing, bicycling, and just being with family and friends.

"I would like to meet other TSs, TVs, TGs and ladies who can accept my feminine personality, and willing to share the same pleasant, sensible interests and friendship."

Sara Ann H (NY-0853)

Connie N. (NY-0434)

CONNIE N. (W. NY) 6/86

MWM elderly hetero TV, 5'5", 125, with most supportive wife.

Likes clean cut clothes and pretty heels. Loves to correspond. All letters promptly answered.

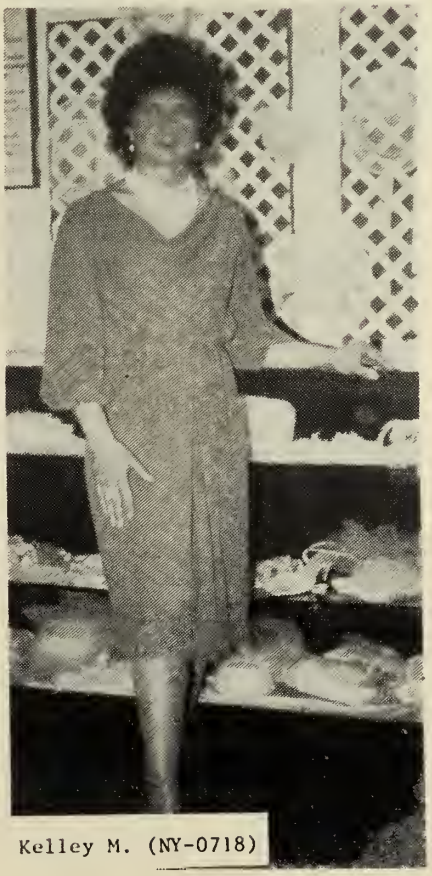
Connie N. (NY-0434)

JONNIE P. (W. NY) 12/85

Member: Chi Delta Mu

Enjoys old-time fiddle music, puppetteering, gardening, hunting, kids. Would like to correspond & meet other TVs in my area with aim of going out in public and attending functions.

Jonnie P. (NY-0873)



Kelley M. (NY-0718)

DIANE C. (W. NY) 4/86

Member: Butterfly

SWM, 43, 5'10", 180, brown eyes, caring.

Interests: Outdoors, fishing, hiking, and of course dressing up.

"I just came out recently. I'm interested in corresponding with and meeting other TVs, TSs, and women with whom I can be my feminine self."

Diane C. (NY-0895)

Lynn M. (NY-0771)

Trenna Marie Mc. (NY-0623)

SUSAN ELIZABETH Z. (W. NY) 5/86

Member: EON

SWM cross-dresser, enjoys fashion, gardening, wildlife, camping. "I enjoy the many new friends I have since joining EON."

Susan Z. (NY-0994)

Bonnie K. (NY-1186)

LYNN M. (W. NY) 12/86
Member: EON
MWM TV, 5'10", 137, very supportive wife.
Interests: Computers, cooking, video tech, costumes.
"Our two little girls, careers, and home keep us pretty busy, but we still have time for quality friendships. Especially like to meet other couples in the Rochester NY area."
Lynn Magin (NY-0771)

ANGELA SHEEDY (W. NY) 5/86
MWM, 40, with supportive wife. Enjoys fly fishing, traveling, motorcycling.
"I'm thoroughly motivated and intellectually stimulated by crossdressing, and living out my fantasies as Angela. I'm hoping to lead the rest of my life as a happy person."
Angela S. (NY-0719)

ALLISON DENDY (W. NY) 5/86
Member: EON, Butterfly
Participant: Butterfly W/E
Attractive passable TS, 32, intelligent, good listener & fun to be with. Enjoys cooking, sewing, woodworking, people. Interested in correspondence and visiting with all TSs, especially in the Central NY area.
Allison D. (NY-0998)

RENEE' SLOCUM (W. NY) 1/87
SWM hetero, 29, 5'11", 160, college educated, shy.
Interests: Photography, collecting small antiques, ballet & exercise, elegant feminine parties.
"I would like to meet and correspond with other crossdressers and females in the Finger Lakes area."
Renee Slocum (NY-0651)

BONNIE K. (W. NY) 12/86
Member: EON
MWM, 38, 5'7", size 12, blue eyes and brown hair.
Interests: Sailing, cross-country skiing, and golf. Also, barbershop harmony and ship modeling.
"I have a very supportive girlfriend who would also like to hear from other wives/significant others. I live as Bonnie as much as possible and enjoy shopping, dining out and meeting other TVs and wives. Will answer all, and look forward to making many new friends."
Bonnie K. (NY-1186)

CAROL TAYLOR (W. NY) 5/87
MWM, 45, 165, lifelong crossdresser, almost guilt free, married to a wonderful, accepting (with healthy understandable questions), and helpful wife.
Anxious to help others, especially couples, find an appropriate and comfortable place for some crossdressing to exist in their lives with minimal guilt and fear. We golf, ski, boat and work hard.
Carol Taylor (NY-0428)

JOANNA PAULINE (W. NY) 5/87
Member: Tri Ess
Married, 5'10", 155, 38, size 14, 2 children, engineer, Catholic.
"I've enjoyed the feminine side of my personality since my early teens. I've been happily married for 14 years. I recently told my wife about my crossdressing, and we are taking one step at a time, hopefully toward a compromise. My interests include photography, cinema, video, and gardening. I'm over the guilt phase, and want to correspond with others in the Rochester NY area."
Joanna Pauline, BX-STS, PO Box 15731, Rochester, NY 14615

NEW JERSEY, PENNSYLVANIA

JENNY W. (NJ) 7/86
Life-long TV, only semi-active lately. SWM, 30, 5'8", dark brown hair and eyes. Occasionally passable.
Interests: Most kinds of music except hard rock (especially 60's, R. Strauss, bluegrass). Also, old movies.
"I enjoy helping others. I am interested in hearing from any crossdressers who would care to write, but am especially interested in hearing from any crossdressers who are also recovering alcoholics like myself. Your anonymity assured."
Jenny W. (NJ-0519)

DOROTHY G. (NJ) 1/87
Member: Chi Delta Mu, Tiffany
Participant: Fantasia Fair, Poconos W/E, P-town WSC
Married hetero crossdresser with a very supportive wife. He 44, she 39.
Enjoys socializing, especially with other couples for friendship. Seeking couples in NJ.
"My wife is handicapped (polio), but enjoys attending get-togethers. We're willing to help other couples having 'acceptance' problems."
Dorothy G., Box 467, Oakhurst, NJ 07755

PAULA A. (NJ) 6/86
Member: Tiffany
MWM TV 50's, 5'9", 175, medium build.
Interests: Carpentry, photography and reading.
"Have attended several private sessions for makeup and wardrobe instruction. Barely passable but enjoy stepping out on occasion as a conservative but smartly dressed woman. Would love M or F company to dine out. Wife knows but does not encourage. Would enjoy corresponding with others."
Paula A. (NJ-0534)

TINA LOUISE L. (NJ) 10/85
Member: Phi Chapter
"I want to enjoy being as feminine as I can, and being with others who feel the same."
Tina Louise L. (NJ-0837)

KAREN V (Northern NJ) 7/86
Member: Tiffany
SWM hetero TV, 38, 5'8, 155, good personality and sense of humor. Adventouress. "A classical music nut, I also enjoy card & word games, karate (black belt),skiing, and gourmet food. I would like to meet women who share some of these interests and are open minded about the cross dressing scene.
Karen V (NJ-0347)

ELENA L. (NJ) 12/86
Single TV, 33, 5'6", 135. Quiet, intelligent, and sincere.
Interests: Bass and rhythm guitar, films, ethnic foods, hiking, sightseeing, and practicing the art of crossdressing.
"I would enjoy making new friends and acquaintances, especially in the NYC metro area, to share mutual interests with."
Elena L., P.O. Box 4805, Clifton, NJ 07015

SUZIE M. (NJ) 12/86
Member: NGA
MWM Bi-TV, 40's, 6'1", trim figure. Loves lingerie, nylons and high heels.
"Have been dressing all my life. Would like to meet with other bi- or gay sisters to share fantasies. Will answer all who write."
Suzie M. (NJ-0686)

VICKI HILL (NJ) 8/86
Hetero, married, 5'9", 155, 44, understanding wife.
Enjoys fiction writing. Has just begun to make contacts, wants to exchange photos, and meet people.
Vicki Hill, P.O. Box 39, Belleville, NJ 07109

JOANNA G. (NJ) 7/86
Member: Tiffany
Participant: Tiffany Spring Convention, Fantasia Fair
DWM, young 60's, 6', 185, healthy, non-smoker.
Interests: Snorkeling, airplanes, flying, fashions, sewing, dining out, good music.
"Have feminine nature, like real values and friendships. Enjoy TV/TS social scene, am considerate and respectful. Especially love 'girl talk' and correspondence."
Joanna G. (NJ-0520)

DENISE MONRAD (E. PA) 5/87
Pre-op TS, 5'10", 135, 30, light brown hair, blue eyes.
Interests: Sailing, archery, playing guitar and the outdoors in general.
"Would like a friend or two to share some time and perhaps some insight and moral support."
Denise M. (PA-1302)

Dorothy G. (NJ-0627)

JENNIFER A. (SE PA) 1/86
SWM, 36, 6', blue eyes, black hair.
Interests: Sewing, crossdressing, attaining that special goal of maleness and femaleness.
Jennifer A (PA-0876)

ROBIN FREY (E. PA) 12/86
Member: Dignity
Pre-op TS, 38, enjoys boating, swimming, horse back riding.
"Would love to find employment & live full time as female. Free to travel, & would love other TV-TSs to give me a call."
Robin Frey, P.O. Box 1341, West Chester, PA 019380 1-215-696-6468

CINDY H. (E. PA) 5/86
GW TV/TS, 5'9", 170, 35. Enjoys being a girl and going out with older masculine W males.
Interests: Make-up, hairstyling, fashion & beauty. Music, movies, TV, VCR, & pets.
"I've become very isolated in 'closet' where I live as a woman. My search for a lasting meaningful relationship has been discouraging."
Cindy H. (PA-0952)

JOANN R. (E. PA) 11/86
Participant: Poconos Outings
Married hetero TV, 5'6", 38, with understanding wife and children. Lecturer and author on crossdressing. Passes easily and loves going out.
Wants to form non-sexual social TV group in suburgan Philadelphia area.
JoAnn Roberts, P.O. Box 1263, King of Prussia, PA 19406

Joanna G. (NJ-0520)

Robin G. (PA-0781)

Shiela K. (PA-0336)

Angela G. (PA-1075)

Alison L. (PA-1242)

ROBIN G. (PA) 8/85

MWM, tall, attractive TV, 38, o passable.

Interests: Spectator sports, fashionable dressing, animals, femininity, travel.

"I'm interested in meeting other passable TVs or TSs in the Phila. NYC, or NJ area for mutual fun and companionship. Am caring, careful, discrete, and sincere. Photo, phone appreciated."

Robin G (PA-0781)

TINA BROWNING (E. PA) 9/86

Writer and organizer of TV/TS educational & social activities.

Interests: History of "androgyny" and the lives of all those in our 'family'.

"I look forward to exchanging correspondence, fantasy/fiction and true experiences of our lives along & across the gender border."

Tina B. (PA-1064)

ANGELA GARDNER (E. PA) 8/86

Member: Phi Chapter

Participant: Joyce Dewhurst Poconos W/E

Angela is 5'11", 35, with dark hair and brown eyes. She enjoys music, film, shopping, mystery & science fiction, and fashion from new-wave to conservative. She loves dining out, dancing, and having a good time.

Angela Gardner, P.O. Box 866, Havertown, PA 19083

LAURA S. (W. PA) 11/86

Member: TransPitt

Married hetero TV, 39, 145, 5'8".

Interests: Golf, racquetball, candlelight dinners, business.

"I'm an entrepreneur with overwhelming time and business commitments. I'm fascinated with the female form and the excitement & refuge it provides. Would like to meet those with similar interests. Photo appreciated - will return same."

Laura S. (PA-1191)

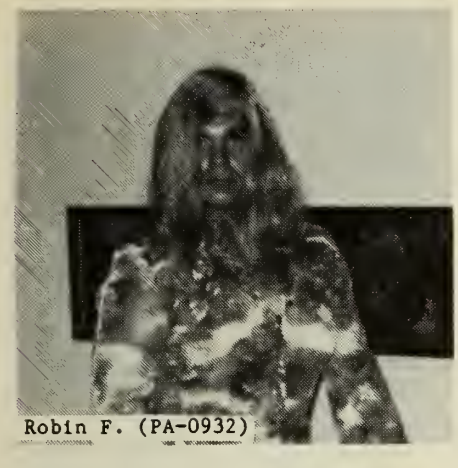
BETH B. (W. PA) 7/86

Member: TransPitt

6', thin build, likes to dress dressy, and be with people of good personality.

Interests: Dancing, shipping, eating out. Interested in meeting people in south-western Penn., and Tri-State area (W.VA, OH, and MD).

Beth B. (PA-1031)


Robin F. (PA-0932)

WENDY H. (PA) 5/86
SWM hetero TV, 28, 6', 165
Interests: Music, photography, and all things relative to cross-dressing. Wishes to correspond with passable TVs regarding all aspect of femininity. Especially interested in hearing from sympathetic females interested in helping me become more womanly. Photo appreciated.
Wendy H. (PA-0958)

ALISON LAING (PA) 3/87
Member: Phi Chapter
Participant: Fantasia Fair, Poconos W/E, Coming Together '87
Awards: Miss Congeniality '87
Middle age, middle sized, enthusiastic heterosexual CD. Passable and getting better. Married, well educated.
Interests: Arts and crafts, especially jewelry and fabrics, work the flea markets and craft scene. Loves good food, wine, travel and dancing.
"I take my gender change very seriously. My outward appearance is only a reflection of my inner feelings, but I still have fun and enjoy it all very much."
Alison Laing, P.O. Box 635, Phoenixville, PA 19460

BRENDA L. HICKEY (PA) 5/86
M-F TS, pre-op, 34, 5'10", 160, auburn hair, blue eyes, handicapped. Has dressed and lived as a woman for 3 years.
Interests: Reading (sci-fi, westerns, TV fiction), computers, chess, archery, pocket billiards, helping others.
"I'm looking for a lasting friendship. I am extremely introverted and need to learn to loosen up, express my feelings openly, and be more outgoing."
Miss Brenda L. Hickey, Hoy Towers, Apt 306, 301 Mohn St., Steelton, PA 17113-2092

SHIELA H. (W. PA) 6/86
Retired TV. Need help to expand life as TV.
Interests: Sailing, modeling (ship), needlepoint. Wishes to correspond with girls who like high heels, make-up, photos.
Shiela H. (PA-0743)

RICKY HUNT (PA) 7/86
Member: Tri Ess
MWM, 36, 6'2", 250.
Interests: Electronics, computers, cooking, hiking, sewing, science fiction, correspondence.
"I'm looking for correspondents who are interested in other subjects as well as TVism. My wife would like to hear from other wives."
Ricky Hunt, Box 263, Towanda, PA 18848

CAMMILLE S. (W. PA) 5/87
Member: TransPitt
Rather heavy set, heavily made up woman favoring conservative dress, including gloves, hankies & perfume & corsets. Interests include photography, writing, hot air ballooning, fashion ideas for large feminine women. "I like leather apparel, but strictly feminine."
Cammille S. (PA-1274)

SHIELA KIRK (W. PA) 6/86
Member: Tiffany, TransPitt, Paradise
Attractive TV, dedicated to this wonderful joy of dressing. "I work very hard so moments of relaxation and pleasure of this sort are precious to me. I love being a TV, and I'm anxious to meet many others who delight in the same feelings."
Shiela K. (PA-0336)

EMILY C. (W. PA) 3/87
"I'm an intensely private lady who has been looking out from behind my eyes. Wish to correspond with others on the same adventure."
Emily C. (PA-0865)

MID-ATLANTIC

MICHELLE ST CLAIR (MD) 5/87
SW, 40, young looking, and interested in new ideas. Most interested in finding a genuine female in DC area for relationship.
Michelle StC (MD-1279)

SUSAN B. (MD) 7/86
MWM hetero TV, 28, just coming out. Very supportive wife.
We would like to make contact with a support group for married couples or individual couples in the TV Community for exchanges of ideas, support, and correspondence. Please be sincere.
Susan B. (MD-0966)

JAYNE MARIE M. (WA-DC) 1/87
"I enjoy photography, writing, & learning about my other self. I'm a closet TV, looking for courage to come out after 25 years of secret dressing. So much to learn, so disheartening to have to do it alone."
Jayne Marie M. (DC-1206)

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JANET DONALDSON (MD) 1/86

"I have tried, in the past few months, to climb out from the weight of years of solitary, furtive dressing into a more open life of friendship with people like me. I cannot be entirely open; I have not told my daughter yet. I am particularly struggling with the question of whether I want to be a woman or just look like a woman, and I would welcome correspondence with others who have struggled with that question. When not dressing, I haunt use book shops looking for the works of certain British women novelists of the twenties and thirties."

Janet D. (MD-0881)

ROBERTA L. (WA D.C.) 6/86

Member: Baltimore/D.C. Alliance

BSM, 6'2", 200, 34.

Interests: biking, top 40 music, fashion, going out, dancing.

"I welcome all correspondence. I dedicate much of my free time to gathering helpful information for crossdressers."

R. Lewis, P.O. Box 50724, Washington, D.C. 20004-0724

CHERYL ANN COSTA (VA) 1/86

Member: Tiffany, Butterfly, Eon

Participant: Joyce Dewhurst Poconos Outing, Tiffany WSG Outing

Awards: 'Miss Poconos '85'

MWM TV, 34, lots of fun at a party.

Interests: Photography, public speaking, computers, Dungeons & Dragons, trivial pursuit.

"I especially like to meet persons who are into transgender activism, public speaking, club organizing, etc."

Cheryl Ann Costa, P.O. Box 3234, Manassas, VA 22110

GENEVIEVE LARENT (VA) 7/86

5'11", 122, 23, brown hair and eyes, BA in Russian from the University of VA. A cross-dresser who is polite, friendly and considerate of other people's rights.

Interests: Designing women's fashions, mining for rubies, collecting antiques, foreign languages, photography, traveling and shopping.

"I will be delighted to answer all letters from anyone with similar interests who wants to cultivate a friendship."

Genevieve L. (VA-1039)

Roberta L. (DC-0972)

Linda C. (0703)

LINDA C. (VA) 4/86

Member: Tri Ess

MWM hetero TV, 49, 5'8", 160

Interests: Am interested in cooking, photography, music, gardening. Will correspond with other TVs.

Linda C. (VA-0703)

YVONNE H. (VA) 5/87

Member: Tri Ess

Hetero TV, 36, 6'1", 200, non-smoker. I don't pass well but am trying to improve my femininity. Love lingerie and all feminine clothing, poetry, gourmet cooking. Would like to correspond and learn how to be as lady-like as possible.

Yvonne H. (VA-1280)

Cheryl Ann C. (VA-0669)

ANGELA CAROL ASH (VA) 7/86

Member: Butternut Belles

Participant: Joyce Dewhurst's Poconos Outing, Fantasia Fair

Awards: 'Miss Best Dressed'

MWM TV, 47, 6', large build, blonde, blue yes, friendly and understanding of others.

Interests: I like dancing and attending parties. I am broad-minded and enjoy dressing, socializing with others & just being a girl. I like modeling feminine outfits. Would love to make new friends, particularly in the Southwest VA & East TN area.

Angela A. (VA-0736)

SAMANTHA D. (VA) 12/85

5'7", 115, 36-24-34, 41, dark hair brown eyes, shy, good dresser, artistic, professional, & enjoy the best in life.

Interests: Art, fishing, good food, good wine, close friends, stylish clothes & leather hi style dresses.

"I enjoy quiet evening with close friends, dancing, & making home videos. Have lake house for entertaining my friends."

Samantha D. (VA-0867)

MICHELLE B. (VA) 12/86

Natural middle aged lady (English). Interested in fashions of the 30's, 40's & 50's. Also interested in rose growing & photography.

Michelle Barker (VA-0617)

CINDY GREEN (VA) 5/87
Member: Tri Ess
DWM TV, enjoys TV lifestyle, lives alone. Looking forward to meeting other CDs. Special interests include ball gowns, hand holding, shopping w/ other TVs, fine lingerie.
Would like to hear from other TVs/TSs for exchange of pictures & interests.
Cindy G. (VA-1278)

LINDA C. (VA) 5/87
Member: Tri Ess
MWM, 51, 5'8", 160.
Interests: Gourmet cooking, photography, music, gardening, all sports. Would like to correspond with other TVs.
Linda C. (VA-0703)

FRANCES T. (NC) 3/87
Member: Tri Ess, ETVC
Participant: 'Coming Together'
Married, 30's, 5'7", 130+, maintains sense of humor.
Interests: Basketball, trail hiking, travel, classical-Celtic-Bluegrass music, movies, & theatre.
"I like shopping & socializing crossdressed, & attending impersonator shows. Do not like to write, but will call at my expense if phone number provided."
Frances T. (NC-1245)

Angela A. (VA-0736)

Cindy G. (VA-1278)

VICTORIA RICHARDS (NC) 7/86
Tall, a little over-weight, very outgoing, fun to be with.
Interests: Swimming, skiing, dancing, & I love to watch ice hockey. I also love lingerie, silk & satin. Would love to correspond with other members.
Victoria Richards, P.O. Box 36191, Greensboro, NC 27406-6191

JAMIE C. (NC) 5/87
Single pre-op TS, 24, 5'8". NC State Dupport Group director NGDO. Business major in college. Seeking pen pals and a permanent relationship.
"I'm outgoing, affectionate, sensitive, artistic, mature, intelligent, full-figured, and feminine in appearance, manner and voice. Good sense of humor. Let's be friends. Please write."
J. Cribb, PO Box 418, Rhodhiss, NC 28667

DIANE O. (NC) 10/85
Member: GGA
"I enjoy Traveling. I dress from 2 to 3 times a month and enjoy meeting others to discuss the joys of cross-dressing. Would like to meet others in my area to go out with. I have a very nice wardrobe and enjoy looking my best for the right person."
Diane, Box 1252, Garner, NC 27529

SOUTHEAST

DIANE KENDALL (GA) 5/87
Member: Tri Ess
Life long TV who loves and appreciates dressing, and who would like to meet and correspond with other sisters. Interested in all things feminine. Would be happy to help others.
Diane Kendall, 3220-A Post Woods Dr, Atlanta, GA 30339 (404) 988-0667

CAROL SUSAN STEARNS (FL) 5/86
MWM, 60+, slight, passes very well.
Interests: Writing, golf (ladies' tees), clothes, people watching, self-improvement, helping others enjoy their right to dress, do, and be as they please.
"I dress almost all the time and feel "crossdressed" only when

I must wear male garments for society's sake. My wife is semi-tolerant, but getting better. Would enjoy hearing from others, especially from central Florida. Will answer all."

Carol Susan Stearns, P.O. Box 803, Lake Mary, FL 32746-0803

JENNIFER B. (SE FL) 6/86

Single, never married, 5'7", 123. Young, passable, a hard working R.N. with graduate degree and professional management experience.

"It's the gender that counts - be the person you want to be. '86 goal: to obtain a professional position as a female in the West Palm Beach area. Do you own a business and need an intelligent, attractive, hard working manager to help you be even more successful? Contact me."

Jennifer B. (FL-0953)

JENNIFER R. (FL) 7/86

SWM, early 30's, and looking for answers. Athletically inclined.

I enjoy scuba diving and tennis, and heading out into the Gulf by boat.

Jennifer R. (FL-0739)

VANESSA S. (FL) 12/86

Member: Tri Ess

MWM, 46, 5'7". Lifelong crossdresser, but unable to dress frequently.

Interests: Reading, history, stamp collecting, lovely femme fashions, high heels, wigs, makeup.

"I love to dress up and feel feminine. I especially enjoy very femme high fashion clothes and footwear. Correspondence helps me get through those times when I can't dress."

Vanessa S. (FL-1178)

CATHY R. (FL) 6/86

DWM, 50, 6', 160, college, shy cross-dresser with XXY genes. Enjoys music, big bands, gardening, quiet lifestyle, cross-dressing, meeting other TVs & TSs.

Cathy R. (FL-1028)

THEODORA R. (FL) 5/87

5'8", 160, size 18.

Single TV. Crossdress at home, wear blouse & slaks all the time, and like all female things. Will answer all.

Theodora R (FL-1117)

Carol S. (FL--551)

Theodora R. (FL-1117)

SARAH ANNE D. (FL) 1/87

Long time TV, 5'6", light complexion. Enjoys flea markets, traveling, & boating. Loves all things feminine.

Sarah Anne D. (FL-0558)

LUCIENNE (LUCY) D. (TN) 5/86

Member: Tri Ess

Participant: Tri Ess Holiday En Femme

Enjoys birdwatching, reading, travel, classical music. "I am 54, a freelance professional artist. The love of all things feminine has been a constant all my life, but my TVism fully surfaced only 5 years ago with the support of a loving wife. I now dress often, and pass in public. I'm eager to know and correspond with others."

Lucienne D. (TN-1000)

CYNTHIA KATHERYN JACOBS (AR) 9/86

SWM, 5'10", 170. Shy, quiet person looking for help in improving my femininity. would love to meet others while dressed. Enjoys sports, movies, and video games. Looking for someone who could teach me to dance, cook and sew. I enjoy being photographed as a woman. Hoping to find understanding people within a 5-hour drive of Northeast Arkansas.

Cynthia J. (AR-1063)

DELINDA LESLIE N. (MS) 5/87
42, 5'4", 195, brown hair, brown eyes.
Interests: Writing, the arts, wicca, psychology, theatre, movies. "I would like to correspond with all who are interested in TVism, TSism, & TGism."
Delinda N. (MS-1275)

WENDY JACKSON (AL) 9/85
MWM TV, 5'10", 175, early 40's. Married to an understanding woman who helps with makeup, clothes, and wigs.
Interests: Tennis, woodworking, all things feminine.
"I'm interested in contacting other TVs, and sharing experiences."
Wendy J. (AL-0794)

Wendy Jackson (AL-0794)

Cynthia J. (AR-1063)

MIDWEST

MICHELLE M. (S.W. OH) 5/86
Member: Paradise, Cross-Port, Tri Ess
Hetero married crossdresser, 5'9", 170, educated, friendly. Married 15 years to an "A" wife who accepts and helps. An original organizer of Paradise. Enjoys crossdressing, hi-heels, 'girl talk', and picture taking sessions. Needs help to enhance feminine voice. Interested in meeting other married crossdressers in SW Ohio.
Michelle M. (OH-0954)

EILEEN CLAFLIN (OH) 11/85
MWM, hetero TV, 6', 35, passable on occasion. Loves kids, kittens, and being Eileen. Enjoys meetings and correspondence, music, photography & shopping.
"Would like to make contact with other sisters to share experiences, viewpoints and understanding."
Eileen C. (OH-0486)

LYNN SHERMAN (OH) 2/87
5'11", 145. "I enjoy music, photography, sports, video, travel, reading. Would like to meet people interested in the TV scene anywhere in the US."
Lynn S. (OH-1244)

LINDA CARSON (OH) 8/85
Member: Paradise Club
Participant: 'Be All You Can Be' W/E
MWM, 5'8", 160, 49.
Interests: Photography, travel, shopping.
"I'm not very fast at answering correspondence."
Linda Carson, Box 86, Dayton, OH 45409

TONI H. (OH) 5/87
Single, 6'1", 195, 58.
Closet executive TV wants to meet same with understanding wife for dressing, dinner and conversation. If you have a private place within 50 miles of Columbus, you have a new friend.
Toni H. (OH-1066)

LARAINNE JOCELYN (OH) 6/86
MWM TV, 52, 5'2", 210
Member: Paradise
Interests: Travel, shopping femininity, music, corresponding, parties.
"I love being a woman. Emotionally and mentally I am a woman and feel complete when I am dressed. I would like to correspond and meet other women like myself to enjoy our interests and company."
LaRainne Jocelyn, c/o Linda Carson, Box 86 W.B. Br., Dayton, OH 45409

PAT JOHNSON (OH) 2/87
MWM, 5'10", 175, 30.
Interests: Crossdressing, golf, outdoor sports, loves feeling of silk & satin.
"Coming out of closet. Wish to correspond & meet other TV/TSs. Need help to improve femininity. Am passable. Would like to swap photos, & will answer all."
Pat Johnson, P.O. Box 293, Huron, OH 44839

AMY JO C. (OH) 11/86
MWM, 49, 5'11", friendly and attractive. Life-long crossdresser, & non-smoker.
Interests: Exotic makeup and clothes, sexy lingerie, nylons and high heels.
"I have an extensive wardrobe and would love to meet TVs, TSs or understanding women for fun and friendship."
A.J. Carmody, P.O. Box 6386, Akron, OH 44312

ELIZABETH JEAN B. (IN) 6/86
Member: Cross-Port
Interests: Photography, making new friends, travel, fashion. "I enjoy being Elizabeth, and hope to make new friends. Would like to meet other TV/TS's in my area. Will answer all correspondence."
Elizabeth B. (IN-1032)

Amy Jo C. (OH-1181)

Yvonne C. (IN-1009)

Linda Carson (OH-0793)

Michelle M. (OH-0954)

Jackie S. (IN-1065)

JACKIE S. (IN) 9/86

Member: CrossPort, Windy City

TV, 5'9", 150, brown eyes & hair, impaired hearing, quiet, lonesome, and non-smoker.

Interests: Bowling, golf, reading, and feminine clothing, especially leotards, fishnet hose, cocktail dresses, etc. Also enjoys nights out in 'Cincy' and 'Indy'.

"Want to meet other TVs & TSs, and in need of a male escort. Can travel on weekends in Midwest and South. Please write."

Jackie S. (IN-1065)

YVONNE COOK (IN) 3/87

Member: Chi Chapter, CrossPort, Indianapolis Group, TGIC. I.F.G.E. Board of Directors Alternate

Participant: Chicago Spring Fling, 'Be All', 'Coming Together'

Friendly, and sincere individual who enjoys all people who are involved in gender issues. Has appeared on national television.

Yvonne Cook, P.O. Box 436, Schererville, IN 46375

VANESSA W. (IN) 5/87

Member: St Louis Gateway Femmes

5'9", slender, blue eyes, blond, white CD, passable in public, very discreet & expect same.

Interests: Lingerie, corsetry, high heels, enjoy role playing & shopping with girlfriend.

S. IN, S. IL, & W. KY, can travel, looking for someone to share experiences with. Also interested in meeting real women interested in CDs.

Vanessa W. (IN-1166)

RITA O. (IN) 11/86
Member: CHIC, NGA
DWM, 47, TS.
Interests: Loves tent camping, travel, country music and military history.
"I'm a 4-year recovering alcoholic willing to 'care & share'. Looking for penpals nationwide. Will answer all, prompt. limited travel possible."
Rita O. (IN-1183)

KATHERYN ANN B. (MI) 5/87
Member: Tri Ess, Crossroads
Participant: Fantasia Fair, Coming Together
29, married to a wonderful spouse, interested in correspondence & meeting those in W. MI. Also, sewing, baking, reading, writing.
"I'm a giver, who has been given much. Believe once sincere deed is worth many good thoughts."
Katheryn B. (MI-1277)

JULIE ANN J. (MI) 2/87
Member: Crossroads
SWM hetero, 5'10", 160, 24.
Interests: X-C skiing, camping, bicycling, lively parties and quiet talks over a cup of coffee.
"I am interested in meeting any sincere TV/TS in the Detroit or Great Lakes area for friendship. GGs - if you don't live in my area, write anyway. I am an easy-going person who loves to crossdress as much as possible."
Julie Ann Johnson, P.O. Box 8715, Royal Oak, MI 48068

REBECCA KAY H. (MI) 1/87
Member: Crossroads
Married WM, 39, 6'4", 205, brown hair & eyes. Just peeking out of the closet & need lots of help. Enjoys sports.
"I have known about the 'girl inside' since a very young age. It is time to let her out & for good. I need lots of help because at my size it will be hard to pass."
Becky Hill (MI-0829)

JENNIFER N. (MI) 1/87
Member: Tri Ess
MWM TV, 5'11", 50, blue eyes, brown hair.
"I travel extensively and use this an an opportunity to meet and socialize with my sisters. I love to dance and party. My interests center on developing my fem-self, passing in all situations and just being Jennifer. I would be happy to correspond and share with my sisters."
Jennifer N. (MI-1165)

Geri Lynn (MI-0668)

GERI LYNN (MI) 1/86
Member: Crossroads
Bi-, MWM, sincere, discrete and honest.
Interests: Golf, military stories, music.
"I enjoy correspondence, all things feminine, photo sessions. Guarantee response to all. Want to meet new friends in Detroit area."
Geri L (MI-0668)

THERESA C. (MI) 6/86
MWM hetero. Enjoys skiing, boating, shopping, fashion, gender psychology, cosmetics, androgyny, all things feminine.
Would love to meet others, and correspondence with like-minded crossdressers and supportive genuine women.
Theresa C. (MI-1003)

MAUREEN NICOLE ARNETTE 9/86
Member: Tri Ess, Chi Chapter, Crossroads, NGA
Participant: Holiday En Femme '85 '86, 'Be All' '86
SWM, 49, professional.
"I have attained my feminine self to surface over the past two years. This has been a positive and rewarding experience for me and I have made wonderful friends through it. I am exploring the transgender process, am involved in a clinic program, started electrolysis and hormones. Happy to communicate with anyone."
Maureen Nicole Arnette, 4275 Dobie Rd, Okemos, MI 48864

Milesa P. (MI-0976)

RANDI (MI) 9/86
Member: Crossroads
M/m, 5'11", 150, late 30's, dark hair & brown eyes, educated professional.
Interests: Travel, outdoors activities, music & golf.
"I like to talk and meet with others, attractive and experienced in the feminine persuasions, TV and TS."
Randi (MI-1074)

MILESA PHAR (MI) 6/86
Member: Crossroads, Paradise
Participant: "Be All" '84 - '86
Hetero TV, married to understanding wife.
Interests: Photography, shopping, good conversation, enjoys the fine are of femininity.
"I am a professional person who has accepted my femme identity and wishes to educate

Maureen Nicole A. (MI-)

Gloria W. (IL-0613)

the public with a positive image of TVs & TSs."

Milesa Phar, P.O. Box 196, Garden City, MI 48135

TERRI SUZANNE S. (MI) 12/86

Member: Crossroads

Participant: 'Be All'

Personable feminine active crossdresser with a good sense of humor.

Interests: Fashion, communicating with other crossdressers, sharing thoughts & experiences, writing articles about TV/TS lifestyle, joys, frustrations & problems.

"I'm interested in helping other gals find & accept themselves. Enjoy going places - shopping, restaurants, movies, shows, etc. as me."

Terri Scott, P.O. Box 728, Birmingham, MI 48012

ROBBIE BAKER (MI) 3/87

Member: Tri Ess, Crossroads

MWM, late 50's, Evangelical Christian, non-smoker, non-driker, does not pass. Life long TV. Main interest high heels. Wants correspondence.

R. Baker, P.O. Box 4253, East Lansing, MI 48826

Terri S. (MI-0476)

GLORIA W. (IL) 11/86

Member: Tri Ess

Participant: 'Be All', NGA 'Spring Fling'

Hetero, 34, 5'3", passable, fun-loving.

Interests: Singing, dancing, jogging, photography, karate, science, writing.

"I publish 'The Crossdresser's Bureau', and edit the NGA newsletter. I love correspondence, and travel periodically as part of my employment."

G. Wright, P.O. Box 172, Gurnee, IL 60031

KATHY H. (MI) 10/85

Interests: Sports. Returning to school to become a registered nurse.

"I'm a large woman, 6'4", 200 lbs. Would like to pass, but very insecure. I want to learn from sisters what every girl should know."

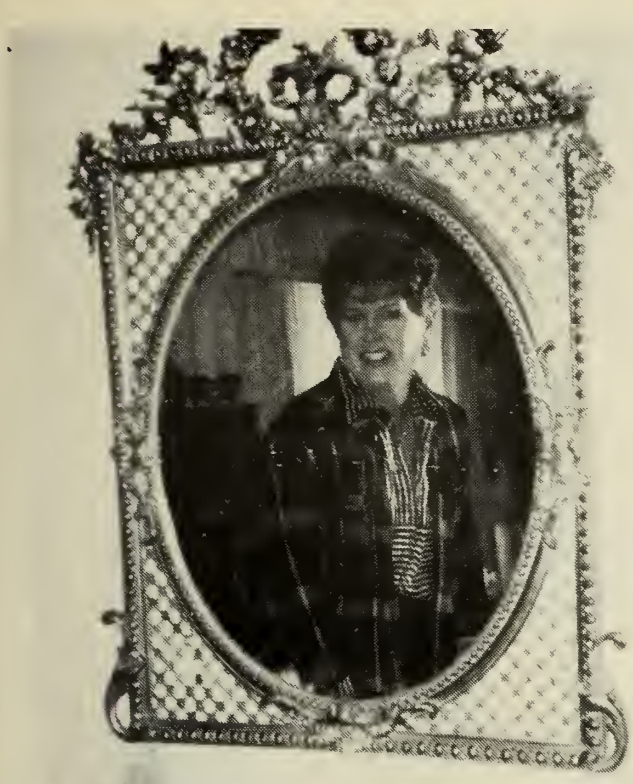
Kathy H (MI-0829)

SHIRLEY P. (IL) 3/87

Member: Salmacis

Single, crossdresser for many years. Crossdress at home all the time, and go out occasionally. Would enjoy correspondence.

Shirley P. (IL-1252)



Eve B. (IL-0523)

Naomi O. (IL-0257)

EVE B. (IL) 6/86

Member: Chi Chapter Tri Ess, Outreach

Participant: DREAM '77 - '80, Fantasia Fair '81-'85, "Be All"

Awards: Miss Dream '78, Miss Congeniality, Miss Best Dressed, Miss Fantasia Fair

Eve is an elegant, fun-loving girl who 'exists' 3 to 4 days a week. Enjoys shopping, dining out, and traveling the mid-west and west. Does many presentations before professional and college audiences to help 'educate' on our lifestyle. Eve plays golf and tennis.

Eve B. (IL-0523)

RAMONA S. (IL) 12/86

Member: Tri Ess, Outreach, NGA, ETVC

Hetero TV, early 50s, 5'7". Interested in meeting & corresponding with other TV/TSs. Enjoys big band & semi-classical music, theatre, reading, swimming & girl talk.

Ramona S. (IL-1180)

KIM MARTIN (IL) 1/87

Member: NGA

WM, 36, 5'8". Enjoys football, golf, reading, 50's music, all aspects of crossdressing.

"I would like to correspond and eventually meet others for lasting friendships."

Kim Martin (IL-1207)

NAOMI O. (IL) 5/86

Member: Chi Chapter (President) Crossroads, Paradise, Outreach

Participant: Fantasia Fair, "Be All"

Awards: Miss Fantasia Fair, Miss Congeniality

A Chicago area attorney who loves the better things in life. Is personable and understanding. Enjoys travel, photography, food (still can't stand beets or brussels sprouts), and fashion & jewelry (it's the gypsy in my soul). Active in mid-west crossdressing activities, and has appeared on radio and television in Chicago, Cleveland, Pittsburgh, Boston, Philadelphia and Minneapolis.

Naomi O., P.O. Box 342, Chicago, IL 60690

LINDA LEE ATHIE (WI) 9/85

Member: GGA

TS oriented, 5'7", 176, 35, blue eyes.

"I would like to write to any TS or TV that would9 like to build a friendship by mail only. I do not desire any personal meetings and am not interested in having anyone looking for fun times or thrills. I would like to build friendships. I will answer all letters."

Linda A. (WI-0529)

MONICA MARTIN (WI) 5/86

MWM, 50, 5'10", 165, professional person.

Interests: Travel, hiking, camping, dressing as a woman, meeting and /or corresponding with other TVs or TSs, or females. I have been dressing since I was 12, and I'm very happy with my femme life. My first and main love is lingerie, hose, and high heels. All letters will be answered. (If possible, please enclose pictures.)"

Monica Martin, Box 92023, Milwaukee, WI 53202

JOHN R. (MN) 7/86

Divorced hetero male, mid-50's, good health, active, businessman, well-travelled, strong traditionalist, cosmopolitan.

Interested in meeting, knowing highly feminine TS/TV for social contact, possible enduring relationship.

John R. (MN-0770)

KAREN ANDERSON (MN) 1/86

40, male, 6", sense of humor, but can be serious, happily married for 19 years, 2 lovely daughters.

Interests: Clothes, sewing, history, research, racing, music, almost everything, very open to most interests.

"Would like to correspond with other couples with TV husband. Possible meeting after a time

when we both are comfortable with each other."

Karen Anderson, Box 18052, W. St Paul, MN 55118

PAMELA ANN JOHNSON (MN) 5/86

37, 6', 195, brown hair, blue eyes (and always on a diet)

Interested in transsexualism, and achieving the end result.

Pamela Ann Johnson, P.O. Box 19532, St. Paul, MN 55119

BARBARA JANE A. (MN) 1/86

Middle-aged, closeted cross-dresser. Psychologically 60%TS, 40% TV.

"Am interested in pre-op and post-op TSs, and other boys who would rather be girls. Will answer all letters. Phone calls welcomed."

Barbara A. (MN-0655) 612-870-8234

VANESSA S. (MN) 1/87

Member: CLCC

Married, 37, 5'11", 170.

"I'm interested in reading, sports, and learning to express the too-long hidden femininity inside. I love music and good conversation. I'm a devout Christian and would love to hear from others who share the joys of Christianity and dressing."

Vanessa S. (MN-1168)

JENNIFER WIXON (MN) 1/87

Member: Tiffany, Crossroads

Tall, intellectual, shy and inexperienced. Since joining Tiffany I haven't gotten any shorter, but am less shy. Pretty much of a closet-type yet. Still need to learn to present 'Jennifer' properly."

Jennifer Wixon, P.O. Box 19455, Minneapolis, MN 55419-0455

JOHN R. (MN) 7/85

Divorced man, 6', 200, mid-50's, good health, active, businessman, well-travelled, strong traditionalist, cosmopolitan.

"I'm interested in meeting, knowing, a highly feminine TS or TV, for social contact and possibly an enduring relationship."

John R. (MN-0770)

MARCY S. (MN) 5/87

35, 6', trim, blue eyes, brown hair, business professional. Enjoys needlework, cooking, music and sports.

"I'm very actively involved in my business community so value discretion highly. Have a wonderful wife who is very supportive and understanding. Will correspond with anyone."

Marcy, PO Box 2814, Minneapolis, MN 55402

Patti F. (MN-0735)

CHRISTINA MARIE B. (IA) 3/87

Member: NGA

TS, 5'11", slender, 40, attractive, well groomed, very-feminine with good sense of humor.

Interests: Shopping, traveling, playing bridge, sports, & just being a girl.

"I want verymuch to meet socially with sister TV/TSs or develop penpals. Been out of the closet for 6 months & want to express my womanhood in every way possible."

Christina Marie Bouchier, P.O. Box 623, Cedar Falls, IA 60613

BEVERLY WAYNE (IA) 2/87

Member: Chi Chapter

"Am helping organize an Iowa affilate of Tri Ess. Enjoy social gatherings, shopping and evenings on the town, sports, photography, meeting new friends in person and by mail."

Beverly Wayne, P.O. Box 75, Cedar Rapids, IA 52406

KAREN CASEY (IA) 12/87

Member: Tri Ess, Gateway Femmes

45, married 19 years, no children, college degree, business analyst. Enjoys reading, photography, cooking.

"I hope to meet some new interesting sisters, perhaps develop some lifetime friendships."

Karen Casey, P.O. Box 7224 Grand Sta., Des Moines, IA 50309

ANGELA JOHNSON (MO) 1/87

Member: St Louis Gateway Femmes

"My interests are Photography, softball, bowling, weight training. I would like to hear from all TVs, TSs, crossdressers & sympathetic women to write and share experiences and problems."

Angela Johnson (MO-1162)

JACKIE O. (MO) 9/85

Member: GGA

Discreet TV, 5'10", 170, 46, brown hair.

Enjoys makeup, & dressing.

"Would like to get out of the closet - one time. Would also like to meet other discreet TVs."

Jackie O (MO-0608)

JANE NANCE (KS) 7/86
Member: Tri-Ess, Outreach, TS Voice

Married, mid-50's, 5'7", 135, supportive wife, masters degree.

Interests: Spending time in public as a female, especially with spouse. Also, symphonic music, theatre, movies, & dinners.

I'm transsexual, but committed to my heterosexual marital relationship. Tend to be a fairly private person, with minimal personal meetings with other cross-dressers. As time permits, willing to share my struggles, growth & experiences with others. Dedicated to educating others about cross-dressing & was on Ariadne Kane's program at U. of Iowa."

Ms Jane Nance, P.O. Box 67088, Topeka, KS 66667-0088

Evelyn B. (KS-0400)

Jane Nance (KS-0694)

LAYLA ROXANNE JOY (KS) 6/86
Member: Tri Ess

Enjoys sports, radio control models, motorcycles, cooking, makeup, wig styling. "I like to dress when I can, and I hope to meet more people who share my love of the feminine."

Layla Roxanne Joy, P.O. Box 8438, Wichita, KS 67208

DORIS MORROW (KS) 7/86
Member: Tri Ess

MWM, 48, just coming out of the closet. Size 22 1/2, cannot pass.

Would like to correspond with other TVs, especially in Kansas. I live in Wichita.

Doris M. (KS-0962)

EVELYN BORDEN (KS) 7/86
Member: Tri Ess

Tall, attractive, passes well, warm and friendly. College educated professional who is an advanced crossdresser, TS oriented.

Interested in finding resources to help with furthering the femme self, helping others to reach resources in the Kansas City area.

Evelyn B. (KS-0400)

VICTORIA K. (KS) 12/86
Member: Tri Ess

SWM, 43, 5'11", 185, hazel eyes, ash brown hair, scorpian. Novice computer owner & studying for a bachelor of Bus. Admin.

"I enjoy everything feminine. Came out of the closet 2 years ago & starting to go public. Interested in starting a cross-dresser group in the Topeka, KS area."

Vicky K., P.O. Box 19034, Topeka, KS 66619

Judy A. (NB-1179)

Haley (NB-1079)

HALEY (NB) 11/86
Member: ETVC
TV, 49ish, 5'8", 175, blonde, size 18-20.
Interests: Shopping, cooking, fashion magazines, getting my hair & nails done, being Haley, and most of all spending time with my wife.
"I'd like to meet other TVs in the central USA and help make TVism easier for others than it has been for me. Will answer all."
Haley (NB-1079)

SARABETH (SALLY) W. (NB) 10/85
Interests: Architecture, classical music, TV/TS fiction and fantasy and Big Red Football, and gymnastics.
"Subscribing to the Tapestry is probably as far out of the closet as I will ever be, but I would enjoy corresponding with other TVs who can help me understand myself."
Sarabeth W. (NB-0833)

JUDY ADAMS (NB) 11/86
Member: Tri Ess
Participant: Fantasia Fair, 'Be All'
Interests: Music (classical, jazz, big bands), record collecting, audiophile, computers, photo sessions, shopping.
"I love feminine things and dressing up. Just coming out of the closet and would like help learning the feminine arts. Would like to meet other TVs or understanding females in the Eastern Nebraska area. Also starting an open non-sexual support group called 'River City' in Omaha."
Judy Adams, c/o 'River City', P.O. Box 1305, Bellevue, NB 68005

ROBIN PEARCE (NB) 9/85
Member: Tri Ess
I'm interested in shopping, and expressing my feminine side.
Robin P. (NB-0796)

ROBERTA LEE (ND) 9/86
Member: Tri Ess
Happily married TV, 5'8", 145, 43, has good sense of humor.
Interests: Electronics, books, creative writing, camping, fishing, shopping.
"I like to write and correspond with upbeat fun loving TVs."
Roberta L. (ND-1071)

INTER-MOUNTAIN

JOANN RENEE CONE (CO) 11/86
Pre-op TS M-F, single, writer, romantic.
Interests: Writing, movies, letters, candlelit dinner, men, intelligent conversation, and friends.
"I love exploring every aspect of the total woman's world I can find - its complexities, joys and sorrows. For me the future is at hand and my sails are raised to the winds of life. Crossing that TS void I am woman by design. I offer warm and caring friendship to all willing to share themselves. This lady wants you to write if you are moved by friendly warmth, and not by an overactive libido."
JoAnn Renee Cone, Box 13183, Denver, CO 80201

SHIRLEY KAY KNIGHT (CO) 11/85
Member: Denver GIC
Participant: Tiffany's P-town Outing, GGA Spring Fling
SWM TV, 43, 5'8", friendly, fun, and feminine.
Interests: Traveling, dancing, sewing, and going out in public dressed.
"I am interested in meeting other TVs, particularly in the Rocky Mountain region."
Shirley K. Knight, Box 1042, Pueblo, CO 81002

CHARLES WORKMAN (CO) 2/87
Attractive Indian, 5'9", 150, brown eyes, good complexion, black hair.

Shirley Kay Knight (CO-0493)

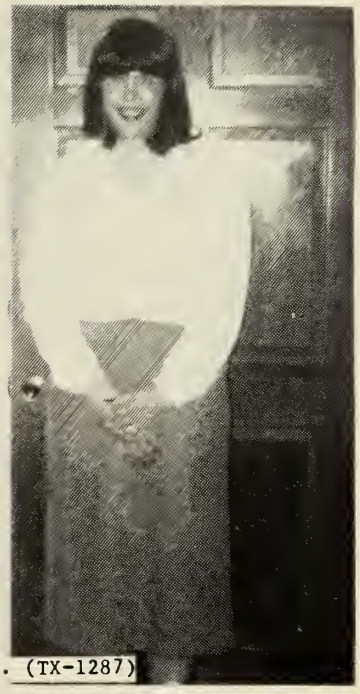
"I'm interested in anything and everything but religion. I would like to correspond and make lasting friendships with TVs & TSs around the world."
Charles R. Workman, Box 600-42066-F-2, Canon City, CO 81212

TOMMIE F. (WY) 1/87
Member: Tri Ess
Interests: High heels, hose & pretty lingerie. Also, photography, historical & model railroading, military history.
"I love to look & feel feminine, to see myself & others in feminine finery. I would like to meet, correspond & exchange photos with sisters world-wide. I will answer all letters."
Tommie F., P.O. Box 1503, Riverton, WY 82501

APRIL M. (UT) 5/87
Member: Tri Ess
5'9", over weight but dieting, light brown hair, blue eyes.
Interests: Reading, listening to music, collecting old books.
"I am very inexperienced at crossdressing. I need to learn fundamentals of makeup, wardrobe, hair care, etc. Any and all help or information will be appreciated."
April M. (UT-1288)

TERRI D. (NV) 1/87
Member: Tri Ess, NGA
Participant: Pajaro Dunes, DREAM, Stallion Springs
Auburn hair, grey eyes, 5'11", 175, 40+, a nice person who loves dressing.
Interests: Flying, ham radio, books, country & string music, travel, and attending TV meetings.
"I love meeting other 'girls', & show them the Vegas area. Am very careful when showing them around."
T. Downs, P.O. Box 4116, N. Las Vegas, NV 89030-0116

Janice R. (TX-0567)


Nancy H. (TX-1287)

SOUTHWEST

JANICE HILARY RUPARD (TX) 6/86
Member: Bolton & Park
MWM, lifelong CD, 5'9", late 50's. Sensitive, caring, with a gentle nature and a bit shy. Retired.
"I so enjoy doing things feminine! And now, working with Bolton & Park, I have met some really neat ladies in person, as well as the lovely folks I correspond with. I'm a bit slow to answer, but will answer all. Your photo will be enjoyed."
Jan Rupard, P.O. Box 63112, Wetmore, TX 78163

MICHELLE M. (TX) 5/87
Blonde, blue eyes, rosy cheeks, 5'8" tall, medium build, 40.
Interests: Jazz, dancing and ballet, reading Vogue, travel, silky lingerie, writing, singing. Needs guidance in selecting feminine wardrobe, just starting with makeup and wig styling. Would like to hear from women.
Michelle M. (TX-1305)

LAURA H. (TX) 9/85
Member: Boulton & Park Cultural Society
MWM lifelong TV, 6', 160, 40, just sneaking out of the closet.
Interests: Skiing, camping, woodworking, hunting.
"I would like to hear from other TVs in the San Antonio area."
Laura H. (TX-0798)

NANCY HART (TX) 5/87
Member: Tri Ess
I live alone, and dress as I wish. Go shopping dressed, flown dressed. Passable but not perfect, getting better. Interested in fashion, makeup, behavior, philosophy, psychology, personal growth, meeting femme friends, computers. Wish to perfect the image and expression of my feminine side. Enjoy talking & working with everyone in the cross-gender community.
Nancy Hart, PO Box 401227, Dallas, TX 75240

ROBIN EMMONS (TX) 3/87
"I enjoy flowers, cooking, gardening, & movies (video). I am also a pre-op TS and need all the help/information I can get. Please write." Robin Emmons, P.O. Box 11814, Ft Worth, TX 76109-0814

MICHELLE PATRICIA G. (TX) 3/87
Member: Boulton & Park
M-F pre-op TS, white, red hair, blue eyes, 5'10", 150, student. Enjoys running, shopping, reading, dancing, water/-snow skiing.
"I hope to correspond with other TSs."
Michelle G. (TX-1246)

SAMANTHA W. (N. TX) 12/86
Member: Dallas-Ft Worth Chapter
Participant: Fantasia Fair, DREAM, 'Be All', Shangri La, 'Coming Together'
Married TV, 5'11", size 18.
Interests: My children and my crossdressing. I enjoy traveling in my RV. Member of a renewed effort to establish a crossdressing group in the Dallas/Ft Worth area. A sporatic corresponder.
Ms S. Walls, 821 St Moritz, #122, Crowley, TX 76036

BRENDA H. (N. TX) 3/87
Member: Tri Ess, Dallas-Ft Worth Chapter
Participant: 'Coming Together'
TS, 40, 5'10", 160, blonde, blue eyes. Chemist.
Interests: Tennis, cooking, music, hairstyling.
"I'm involved in the Dallas/-Galveston TS program. Have finally decided to relent to the overwhelming desire to be my female self."
Brenda H. (TX-1247)

RENE F. (TX) 5/86
Member: Tri Ess, CHIC
Married, mid 50's, tall, has been interested in crossdressing entire life. Out of the closet 7 years. Enjoys dining, dancing, fishing, amateur radio.
Rene F. (TX-0989)

BETTE J. (N TX) 7/86
Member: Tiffany, GGA, Tri Ess
Participant: Tiffany P-town '85
MWM hetero TV, 5'9", 50, size 18. Can pass. Never met a stranger.
Enjoys parties, and being a

Kay M. (TX-1208)

Wendi P. (AZ-1072)

girl.

"I've dressed forever, and now I'm out of the closet. I travel extensively, and would like to meet other TV girls. Would especially like to help and advise those who are just starting to come out."

Bette J. (TX-0543)

KAY METSKER (TX) 1/87

Member: Outreach, NGA, Tri Ess

Participant: Fantasia Fair

Awards: 'Miss Cinderella' FF '86

SWM, 35, 5'10", 145, quiet, sensitive, caring. Enjoys skiing, computers, reading, dancing, traveling, games.

"I would love to meet others in the Dallas area for support and social contacts."

Kay Metsker (TX-1208)

JACQUELINE ANNE A. (TX) 12/86

Member: Boulton-Park

Strawberry blonde, 5'9", 77 Kg (I think, anything to avoid the fact), brown eyes.

Interests: Cars, jazz & classical music, politics, westerns, kids.

"When I first started dealing with national organizations I intended to become a good correspondent - failure! I would like to hear from you though."

Jacqueline Anne Allen, P.O. Box 6948, San Antonio, TX 78209

JENNIFER F. (NM) 5/86

Member: Tri Ess

6'2", 210, married, occasionally passable.

"I enjoy all people, rock 'n roll, cooking and quiet times. Femininity is a passion. Love silk hose, heels and old movies. I'm interested in going out with other cross-dressers. Will travel. Will answer all."

Jennifer F., P.O. Box 37497, Albuquerque, NM 87176

ROSALIND HART (NM) 7/86

Member: Tri Ess

Participant: 'Be All', WSG Ptown Outing

Married TV, 59, but appear younger. 5'6", 155, slightly graying brown hair. Relatively uninhibited under proper circumstances. Wife's acceptance ambivalent. Non-smoker.

Interests: Skills required to pass well. Endocrine, psychological, & genetic basis of transvestite behavior. Enjoys computers, science fiction, shopping, dining out, music and good conversation with like-minded persons.

Rosalind H. (NM-0768)

JENNIFER S. (AZ) 7/86

DWM, 6', 170, 44, warm, sharing, caring.

Enjoys good food, music, cuddling, and dressing to the max. Good wardrobe - extensive lingerie, heels, wigs, makeup, etc. Would like to meet other TVs or TSs.

Jennifer S. (AZ-1056)

WENDI DANIELLE P. (AZ) 5/87

Member: Alpha Zeta, A Rose

Participant: Fantasia Fair, 'Coming Together'

DWM, CD, 5'8", 145, 38, brown hair & eyes, striving to be passable.

Interests: Many, including camping, boating, photography, computers, cooking, travel, music, and exploring beautiful Arizona.

"I've been exploring my femme side for about a year and have truly enjoyed what I have found. My fascination with cross-dressing is only equaled by my wanting to enjoy life to the fullest. My motto is 'Go for It!', so let's get together. Would like to meet TVs, TSs, or females. Can

travel. Please contact me."
W.D. Pierce, PO Box 4351, Scottsdale, AZ 85261

SUSAN BURTON (AZ) 8/86
MWM, hetero TV, age 36
Interests: Literature, classical music, art & photography, cross-cultural studies, human biology & psychology.
"My greatest loves are travel, visiting old friends, and making new ones, and would greatly enjoy meeting or corresponding with new friends in the TV/TS Community."
Susan Burton, P.O. Box 226, 3116 E. Shea Blvd., Phoenix, AZ 85028

CINDY ANN MACKENZIE (AZ) 5/86
SWM TV, 6', 148, 34, size 12
Interests right now are finding persons for support and to share the fun of cross-dressing. I would like to be more active with things like dinner, dancing or shopping. Someday I hope to find a woman that will share with me feelings. She will get the best of all worlds.
Cindy M. (AZ-0767)

DIANE I. (AZ) 9/86
Member: Alpha Zeta (President)
Interested in women's fashions, music, cooking, writing, classic movies, travel. Enjoys shopping, going to plays and musicals, and out to dinner as a girl. Has spoken to college classes on cross-dressing.
Diane I. (AZ-1070)

CALIFORNIA

JOYCIE McGINN (S. CA) 7/86
Member: Tri Ess, Shangri La
Participant: Shangri La, DREAM
Awards: 'Miss Dream' 1st runner-up, 'Miss Congeniality'
Interests: Photo sessions, sports, sports cars, classics, shopping with TVs & TSs. Also, gardening, re-decorating apts., auto mechanics.
"Would love to hear from TVs & TSs, but must send photo. All letters will be answered ASAP. Will show girls around S. CA area."
Joycie McGinn, 9847 Flora vista Sp. 31, Bellflower, CA 90706

Elizabeth J. (CA-1030)

TERRI CANNON (S. CA) 5/87
MWM, 5'11", 40's, well educated, sensitive, discreet, stable. Good sense of humor.
Interests: Cooking, fine arts, photography (have taught classes), 'New Age' philosophy, psychology, film, tennis, golf.
"Due to family, I do not dress at home, but do have secure place to dress occasionally. Enjoy being supportive friend to other TVs/TSs. Appreciate a natural look, warmth, honesty, humor. Long term friendships possible. All replies answered!"
Terri C. (CA-1293)

DAVID B. (S. CA) 5/87
WM bi, 6'1" 180, 31, attractive, athletic. Seeks pre-op TS for friendship and dating.
Dave B. Box 86490, San Diego, CA 92138

ESPE L. (S. CA) 5/87
Likes going out to local pubs dressed, attending TV parties, and balls. Interested in fashion, makeup, chit-chat, tennis, fishing, music, jazz, carpentry. Has full support of spouse, and has been looking for a lot of new friends that share the same interests.
Espe L. (CA-1299)

SUSAN T. (S. CA) 12/86
Member: Neutral Corner, Tri Ess
Long time TV, 60, 5'8", 180, size 20, scientific researcher.
Interests: Hiking, science, reading, music, skiing.
Will answer all.
W. Thomas, P.O. Box 99732, San Diego, CA 92109

Terri C. (CA-1293)

Joycie Mc. (CA-1073)

JOAN MARIE GREY (S. CA) 5/86
Member: Tri Ess, Shangri-La, Outreach Institute
Life long crossdresser, 51, 5'10", 185, widowed, President Alpha Chapter.
Interests: Dining out, theater, reading, model railroading, corresponding, visiting.
Joan G. (CA-0532)

JOANNA ALICE G. (S. CA) 1/87

6'2", blue-eyed, long auburn haired BBW. Sensitive, warm, & descreet.

Interests: Medievalist, Baroque to early rock music, cooking. Also, corresponding, visiting girlfriends, quiet walks, old movies, shopping.

"Am just beginning to fully express 'Joanna' as the best part of me. As Joanna blossoms, all of me grows - deeper, fuller, warmer, nicer."

J.A. Gaylord, 1721 7th St, San Fernando, CA 91340

JESSICA MERTEN (S. CA) 9/86

Member: ETVC, Neutral Corner, Shangri-La.

Pretty, very passable, 46 y/o TS, forced by circumstances to stay pre-op for the forseeable future.

Especially like to hear from anyone in Southern California in similar situation.

Jessica Merten, P.O. Box 9475, Palm Springs, CA 92263

RITA F. (S. CA) 12/86

Participant: Shangri-La, 'Be All', Spring P-town

Open minded, loves all things feminine, especially high heels and nylons. Also enjoys fishing, engine building, art, music.

"I travel extensively, and would like to meet others interested in being fem."

Rita F (CA-0600)

BEATRICE ELAINE G. (S. CA) 2/87

50+, long blonde hair, Celtic/English background, and envies those who pass.

Interests: Music, reading, writing.

A CD with curtains drawn & doors locked, wears garter top stockings and frothy lingerie every day. Loves to write. Will answer all.

Beatrice E. Gibson, (CA-1235)

ROBIN N. (S. CA) 8/86

Member: Tri Ess

SWM, 29, wishing to meet with or correspond with other TVs/TSs who enjoy their feminine self.

Interested in travelling, photography, history, science fiction, writing, music and being feminine.

"Will answer all who write. Will send photo to those who do likewise. Discretion a must."

Robin N. (CA-1068)

Espe L. (CA-1299)

JENNIFER J. (S. CA) 7/86

MWM, 5'10", 190, 34, blue eyes.

Interests: Fashion magazines, lingerie, bowling, camping.

"Hope to meet others who enjoy dressing and be friends. Will answer all."

Jennifer Jessop, 12226 Victory blvd, Suite 281, No. Hollywood, CA 91606

DENISE ST. CLAIR (S. CA) 5/86

Hetero cross-dresser. Enjoys music, dancing, socializing with other TVs, TSs, etc. Would like to correspond with others, and with genetic women. I live with my girl friend who is very understanding.

Denise St. Clair, 6520 Selma Ave #1243, Los Angeles, CA 90028

ELIZABETH N. JOHNSON (S. CA) 6/86

Pre-op M-F TS, 28, 6', friendly but shy. Television Engineer. Passable with voice, mannerisms & body frame, but in need of makeup & hair styling tips.

Interests: Fanatic in fashion sales, indoor plants, sing opera (use my own soprano female voice), computers, bicycles.

"Would like to start a friendship with TSs, TVs, and others who are warm, friendly and sincere. Write, call, send video tape (any format), or audio cassette."

Elizabeth J. (CA-1030)

MARLENE L. (S. CA) 6/86

Member: Alpha Chapter

Interested in motorcycles, tennis and 10K races.

"I'm 53, and have an understanding girlfriend. When I am home I dress en femme, but I am not home too often. Have been out in public in both San Francisco and Los Angeles, and seem to pass there reasonably well. I seldom miss an ALPHA Chapter meeting."

Marlene L. (CA-1036)

FRANCINE G. (S. CA) 8/85

Member: Alpha Chapter Tri Ess

Single hetero male - oriental extraction, 5'8", 123, 30.

Interests: Painting, drawing, classical music (listening), audio, health & nutrition, photography, stage & women's make-up.

"The complete task of being a woman, emotionally and mentally as well as physically, absorbs me. I have made wonderful new friends since 'coming out' in May of '85, and hope to make many more. Have fairly good appearance for a beginner."
Francine G. (CA-0789)

KAREN K. (CA) 5/86
Member: Tri Ess
SWM hetero TV, 43, 5'9", 182. Pleasant personality who enjoys meeting people. Interested in photography, camping, & hiking, running, all sports, good instrumental music, reading, & stamp collecting.
"I enjoy writing and meeting with sisters. I also travel a great deal. I also enjoy going out dressed, but I'm careful."
Karen K. (CA-0322)

DIANNE K. (S. CA) 11/85
Member: GGA
Interests: Photography, trains & streetcars, writing, making new friends, & dressing up.
"I am 35, 5'9", 140, married, and my wife encourages my crossdressing. I've just made my first attempts at going out and find it quite thrilling. I want to correspond, exchange photos and meet other TVs."
Dianne K. (CA-0846)

KAY GOULD (CA) 3/86
Very feminine and totally passable. Enjoys all aspects of feminine life style. Strong personality with ultra femme tastes.
Interests: Fine music, dining, theatre, and high fashion.
"I date extensively, and travel heavily throughout the US. I appreciate male escorts in most cities. Am very accomplished in all feminine ways but demanding in personality. I also write for several national publications."
Kay Gould, Box 255, Sacramento, CA 95802

LAUREN OLSEN (N CA) 11/85
Member: Tri Ess
MWM, 42, 5'11" 155, use own hair (no wigs), and married to an understanding wife for 15 years. Some college.
Interests: Fashion, arts, science, writing, the outdoors, music, and science fiction.
"I've been a hair stylist for over 10 years, and will answer questions about hair and make-up. I hope to make some friends with this listing."
Lauren Olsen, 903 Whitehall Lane, Redwood City, CA 94061

Robin N. (CA-1068)

Karen K. (CA-0322)

ANDI K. (N. CA) 6/86
Member: Tri Ess, ETVC
Awards: Miss ETVC '84
Hetero, 36, 5'7"
"I am interested in meeting other TVs in the San Francisco Bay area for outings and mutual assistance. I will attempt to answer all correspondence."
Andi K. (CA-0656)

LAURA R. COVINGTON (CA) 11/85
Member: GGA, Tri Ess, Shangri-La
MBM, hetero, 36, 5'8", attractive, pleasant, understanding.
"I'm interested in contacting TVs and women. I have many interests, and will answer all."
Laura R. Covington, Box 10431, Oakland, CA 94610

REBECCA REDSING (N CA) 8/85
Member: GGA
Travels extensively and enjoys meeting others with similar interests. Loves to spend quiet evenings in a negligee reading and listening to music, or engaging in light conversation. Wishes to correspond with others interested in fashions, make-up, and the enhancement of the feminine image.
Rebecca R. (CA-0778)

RACHEL ANN CARR (N. CA) 5/87
Member: Tri Ess, ETVC
Married, 58, 5'10", size 18, app. 175, neat, do not smoke or drink.
Interested in meeting other TV couples for social good times and quiet get-togethers. I like reading, travel, television. Am fairly new to crossdressing and feel I am improving in both wardrobe and makeup ability. Would appreciate any input relative to these and any other areas which would develop my feminine side. Will answer all.
Rachel Ann Carr, 910 Monterey St, Suite 1 B-#152, Hollister, CA 95023

Andi K. (CA-0656)

Lauren O. (MN-0851)

Kay G. (CA-0323)

Laura Covington (CA-0480)

JOAN SHELDON (N. CA) 11/86
Member: ETVC, RGA

MWM hetero, 65, pleasant. Enjoys friendship of TVs & spouses who are out of the closet & proud of the fact.

Interests: Flying, sailing, computer freque. Enjoys contact with self-accepting TVs.

Sponsor of TV weekend retreats at a beach community in CA, and at Lake Tahoe. Holds events 4 times a year. Purpose: Social interaction & development of feminine personna & feminine deportment.

Joan S. (CA-0391)

JACIE H. (CA) 5/87
Member: ETVC

39, 5'9", 155, blonde & attractive. Hormones 3 years, electrolysis 50% complete.

Interests: Finance, stock markets, real estate, sports cars, & restorations (english), art (oils & clay), some sailing.

"I would like to meet other pre & post op TS's along the Calif. Gold Coast (Ventura & Santa Barbara area) for informational exchanges & for discrete social acquaintance. No casual crossdressers please."

Jacie H. (CA-1103)

LORRAINE ELLEN H. (N. CA) 11/86
Member: ETVC

MWM hetero TV.

Only very recently emerged from the closet and am over-awed but savoring eery moment that I can publically adopt a female role. Would like to participate in more activities considered traditionally feminine. Would enjoy exchanging experiences and ideas with sister TSs and TVs of similar bent.

Lorraine H. (CA-1150)

WENDY REED (N. CA) 5/87
Member: Rainbow Gender Alliance

MWM TV, 6'1", 170, 39.

I'm a caring, educated, articulate person, had been accepted for the 'change', but living now semi-closet, married to accepting wife, working as male. Interests include photography, video, writing, all music, sci-fi, fine jewelry, sewing, pen-pals.

I am open and giving to all; TVs, TSs, novices, interested persons, straight-gay-bi, fantasies, and always try to respond promptly. I love new friends and would love to lend support and/or guidance.

Wendy R. (CA-1290)

CANDI LEIGH RYAN (N. CA) 6/86

MWM, 32, 5'10", 165, pleasant and pretty.

Interests: Music, reading, all sports, shopping, and very frequent dressing. Enjoys a growing femininity, beautiful clothes, and high heels. Likes to correspond (prompt). Looks forward to increased outings and joining social groups. Wife knows and supports.

Candi R. (CA-0908)

LISA A. (N. CA) 4/86
SWM, 31, 6', 130
Interests: Post-industrial music, computers, alternate realities and a host of other things.
"I never suspected that coming out the closet would feel so good! I'd enjoy hearing from sub-geniuses, discordians and others of a similar bent."
Lisa A. (CA-0939)

LAURA C. (N. CA) 5/87
Member: Tri-Ess
DBM, hetero, 38, 5'8", 145, attractive, sincere, friendly.
Interests: Fashion, photography, movies, video, music, reading, sports, sport cars, auto racing.
"I would like to correspond and meet other TVs or TSs and ladies that understand. I enjoy making new friends throughout the U.S. I love sharing with others the joys of trying to look as feminine as possible."
Laura Covington, Box 10431, Oakland, CA 94610

SHARON L. MORGAN (N. CA) 5/87
Have been a TV most of my life. Am not a school girl by any stretch of imagination, butafter all, TVism has no age. Interested in corsets, 19th century vintage. Would love to hear from and correspond with others that like to wear corsets. Any and all letters will be faithfully answered.
Occupant, PO Box 623, Yountville, CA 94599

TARA TENILLE (N. CA) 6/85
Member: GGA, Society of Janus (Co-ordinator Sacramento Branch), ETVC
Participant: Spring Fling '85
Bi-TV, mid 30's, single, can entertain or travel.
Interests: Photography, music, dancing, travel, learning, corsets, high heels, nights out on the town, adventure, and people who are a little bit crazy.
"I want to travel more and meet new, sincere, serious friends and dates - nationwide and worldwide. I enjoy erotic dress more than formal dress and always love to compare notes with those of like interests. Most of my clothes are custom-made. Will answer all,, but photo and SASE appreciated."
Tara Tenille, Box 13033, Sacramento, CA 95812-3033

Tara Tenille (CA-0752)

NORTHWEST, HAWAII

LYNN D. (WA) 8/85
Member: Emerald City-GGA
MWM, 5'9", 38. Wife knows but doesn't really accept.
Interests: Scuba diving, sports cars.
"I enjoy a quiet day just being myself - feeling whole!"
Lynn D. (WA-0797)

ELLEN S. (OR) 12/86
Member: NWGA, Emerald City, I.F.G.E. Board of Directors
Participant: DREAM, P-town Spring Outing, Pajaro Dunes, Chicago Spring Fling.
Awards: 'DREAM' Grand Dame '83
Late 50's, married with 3 children, all know of Ellen and understand.
Interests: Travel, big band era music - has large collection of old 40s, 50s & 60s recordings.
"I will answer all letters addressed to me or to NWGA."
Ellen S., c/o NWGA, P.O. Box 4928, Portland, OR 97208-4928

Candi R. (CA-0908)

SARAH SHIPMAN (WA) 5/87
Very private person, not much to look at. Enjoy being left alone. Interested in running, skiing, reading. Need advice and or help to improve bustline.
Sarah S. (WA-1297)

SALLY RAY (WA) 5/87
Member: Tri Ess, Emerald City
MWM TV, hetero, 5'8", 160, 32.
Interests: Travel, photography, garage sales, and "hunting as Diana" - shopping the malls in high heels and skirt.
"Seeking someone like myself in the SE WA area, who passes easily, to "just be girls" with and to experience those things feminine.
Sally R. (WA-1292)

TANYA L. (WA) 1/87
Member: Emerald City
SWM hetero, 21, 5'8", size 9.
Interests: Wood working, Nazi history, running, bicycling, and reading.
"I'm just starting to come out and I need a lot of support. Hope to return home to Central Massachusetts this summer, and would like to have a few friends there when I arrive."
Tanya L. (WA-1210)

SANDY S. (WA) 6/86
Member: Emerald City
Loves nylons, heels, cloths, and the total look. Wishes to meet others, exchange pictures, get out for an evening or weekend.
Sandy S. (WA-1022)

Lorraine H. (CA-1150)

Wendy R. (CA-1290)

KAY L. (WA) 3/87
Member: Tri Ess, Emerald City
Interests: Theology, cats, the Wizard of Oz, Halloween, pondering theology/sexuality questions.
"A very supportive spouse. Kay doesn't go out often, but would like to discuss TV/TS questions & issues with others. A slow but reliable correspondent."
Kay L. (WA-98119)

JUDY OSBORNE (WA) 6/86
Member: Emerald City (Treasurer), NWGA, Tri Ess
Interests: Going out dressed to kill, sailing, cooking scuba diving, parties, people.
"Can't participate much for now because of (hopefully) short-term problems with my teen-aged daughter."
Judy Osborne, P.O. Box 19394, Seattle, WA 98109

CHERYL C. (WA) 7/85
Member: Tri Ess
Hetero TV, 40, 5'5", employed full time as an alcoholism counselor.
"I would like to correspond with all- and will reply to all letters. I am new, just out of the closet, and would like to hear from everyone."
Cheryl C. (WA-0777)

Rachael Ann C. (CA-1294)

Joan S. (CA-0391)

GLORIA H. (WA) 6/86
SWM TS oriented, 33, 6'2", 235, brown hair & eyes, shy.
"Have had this feminine feeling as long as I can remember. Don't go out much, an need the support of other TSs and understanding females, especially in the northwest or N. CA areas, who can help me get out of the closet I've locked myself in. I will answer all letters as time permits."
Gloria H. (WA-1010)

CLARA ANN B. (Hawaii) 4/86
Member: Tri Ess, Shangri La
Interests: Photography, orchid growing, golfing, swimming, service organizations.
"I've been interested in the femme since early teens. Have been dressing over 40 years, and love it more now than ever. Will write to sincere TVs."
Clara B. (HI-0955)

Ellen S. (OR-0382)

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Sally R. (WA-1292)

FOREIGN

LAURA LYONS (QUE CAN) 2/87
Member: TAMs
"I've gon out on a limb but haven't fallen off the mountain yet. this 31 yr old 5'8", 140 lb TS still has her feet on the ground most of the time. As an honest, open & caring person I look for the same in others. Would like to meet other TSs and passable TVs for friendship or whatever positive things fate may have in store for us."
Laura Lyons, c/o TAMS, P.O. Box 1114, Sta. H, Montreal, Que CAN H3G 2N1

JOAN BRIDGMAN (CAN) 8/86
Member: FACT Toronto
Participant: Tiffany's P-town Convention
M-F pre-op TS, 5'7", 180, early 40's.
"I seldom have time to answer correspondence. If you are in Toronto, please call me at 416-598-0433."
Joan M. Bridgman, 25 Wood St., Apt 305, Toronto, ONT CAN M4Y 2P9

MS SUSAN C. HUXFORD (CAN) 5/86
Member: FACT, SHAFT

Elderly (?) lady, TS (post-op), counselling educator in g-nder dysphoria syndrome, lecturer, writer and workshop facilitator. Director, GenderServe and Executive Director FACT. Tapestry Board of Advisors, member of professional bodies in U.S.A. and Canada.

"I am frequently called upon for advice by persons of cross-gender inclination in both Canada and the U.S. and have professional contacts on both sides of the border."

Ms Susan C. Huxford, GenderServe, P.O. Box 291, Station 'A', Hamilton, ON CAN L8N 3C8

LINDA JENSEN (CAN) 7/86
Member: FACT Toronto

Hetero MWM, late 30's.

Enjoys sports, cross-dressing, dining, and dancing. Travels a lot.

"Family responsibilities keep me from dressing at home, so I travel a lot. Have had some great experiences while dressed, would like to experience more. Also willing to do videos for crossdressers who want to see themselves in action."

Linda Jensen, Box 15855 Station F, Ottawa, Ont K2C 3S7 Canada

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MARY LOU H. (W. CANADA) 5/86
Member: Tri Ess, ETVC, Shangri-La

Participant: Fantasia Fair, Poconos W/E, Tri Ess Holiday, Shangri La, 'Be All'

SWM hetero TV, retired, 5'8", size 12, musician, loves concerts, drama, nature, museums, traveling. Stylish dresser with fine wardrobe. Will meet hetero TVs and understanding girls/ladies. I love correspondence and exchange of pictures. Will answer all.

Mary Lou H. (CAN-0440)

Mary Lou H. (CAN-0440)

Micheline Johnson (CAN-0560)

Linda J. (CAN-0442)

Danielle B. (CAN-0840)

DANIELLE B. (AL CAN) 3/87

Pre-op TS, 5'6", 135, brown hair & eyes. Libra/Scorpio. Living full time as a woman.

Interests: Art, theatre, people, fitness, intelligent conversation.

"I would like to meet a real gentleman who knows how to treat a lady, and very passable TVs & TSs for friendship. Photo required for response."

Danielle B. (CAN-0840)

GINA S. (ENGLAND) 5/87
Member: TV-TS Support (London), Phoenix Society (RSA)

"I'm a young (30's) TV, enjoying life after divorce. I enjoy sports such as cycling, squash, golf, bridge, and especially feminine hobbies. Would like to establish friends as penpals."

Gina S. (GB-1295)

Randi D. (-1013)

Beverly W. (-1230)

Karen C. (1170)

Jennifer N. (-1165)

Angela J. (1162)

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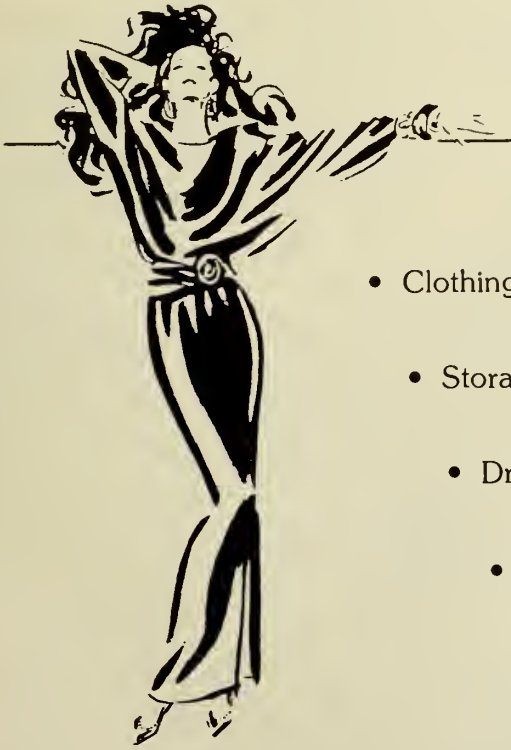

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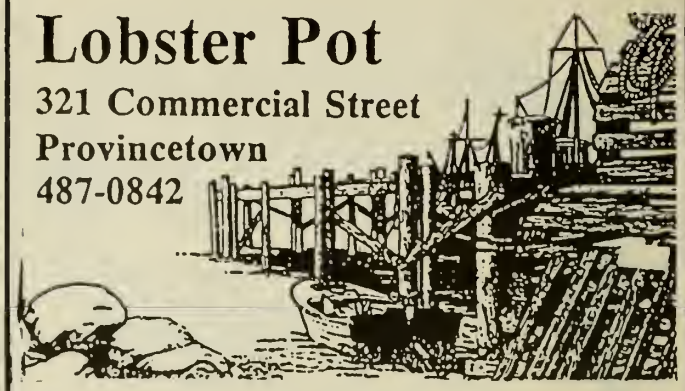

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COME TO THE CROWN

TIFFANY CLUB MEMBERSHIP FORM

Tiffany Club
P.O. Box 19, Wayland, MA 01778 (617) 358-2305

TIFFANY CLUB: The Tiffany Club is a chapter of the 'International Foundation for Gender Education' (IFGE), primarily serving the Northeast region of the United States.

TIFFANY is dedicated to the objectives of the IFGE, providing education, friendship, and support to the Cross-dressing/Transsexual Community, those persons affected by and those persons serving that Community. It does so by managing a facility (which also serves as international headquarters of IFGE), and offering privacy and storage. Tiffany also provides a comprehensive program schedule including but not limited to casual get-togethers, moderated raps, workshops, seminars, beauty courses, social activities, nights out on the town, outings, conventions, etc.

FACILITIES: Tiffany is the manager of the Tiffany/IFGE facilities, so persons planning to use the facilities should also be members of Tiffany. (It is not required you be a member, but there would be extra fees, and you would be subject to the same screening procedures, security, and code of conduct.)

Date: _____ NAME/ADDRESS: _____

TELEPHONE: _____ (Special mailing and phoning instructions [how to mail, when to call, etc.])

PLEASE CHECK:

_____ TIFFANY CLUB SPECIAL MEMBERSHIP $30.00

_____ ASSOCIATE (SPOUSE) $30.00

_____ TIFFANY CLUB SPECIAL MEMEBERSHIP and IFGE SUBSCRIBER MEMBERSHIP PACKAGE $60.00 ($70.00 1st CLASS POSTAGE)

_____ IFGE SUPPORTING MEMBER $100.00 ($110.00 1st CLASS POSTAGE)

_____ TIFFANY GENERAL MEMBER $300.00

TIFFANY CLUB SPECIAL MEMBERSHIP: $30.00 per year ($35.00 1st Class Postage, foreign). Special membership includes Tiffany's monthly newsletter, an invitation to use Tiffany Club's facilities, attend Tiffany Club and IFGE's functions, and participate on Tiffany Club and IFGE's Programs Committees. Special members are entitled to reduced attendance and overnight fees, and discounts to most Tiffany sponsored events.

ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP: $30.00 per year. Associate memberships are offered to persons in a committed relationship (SPOUSE/S.O.) with a member in good standing of the Tiffany Club. Associate membership runs concurrently with their partner's membership. Privileges include having all attendance fees waived, and an invitation to attend Tiffany's functions and serve on Tiffany's Programs Committee.

SPECIAL/SUBSCRIBER: $60.00 per year ($70.00 1st Class Postage, foreign). Special/Subscriber includes both an IFGE Regular Subscription, and Tiffany Club Special membership.

IFGE SUPPORTING MEMBER: $100.00 per year ($110.00 1st Class Postage, foreign). As a courtesy to and in cooperation with IFGE, Tiffany will extend Special Membership privileges to IFGE Supporting Members at no charge.

TIFFANY CLUB GENERAL MEMBERSHIP: $300.00 per year (based on $25.00 per month, minimum initial payment of $40.00, $250.00 per year if paid within 6 months). (Add $10.00 for 1st Class Postage, or foreign.) General membership is for persons who intend to be more active or supportive of the Tiffany Club and IFGE, or in greater need of private facilities. General membership includes the waiver of all attendance fees and storage fees, two free overnights per month, reduced use-of-facilities fees, and a subscription to both the Tapestry and Tiffany's monthly flier. Also, General members are invited to attend Tiffany's functions, participate on all committees, and take part in Tiffany Club's business affairs.

TIFFANY CLUB KEYHOLDER MEMBERSHIP: $360.00 per year ($30.00 per month, $300.00 per year if paid within 6 months.) (Add $10.00 for 1st Class Postage, or foreign.) Privileges for Keyholder membership are the same as for General membership, plus 4 additional free overnights, and unescorted access to Tiffany Club's facilities at any time. This is a level offered by the Board of Directors to dependable and security conscious General members.

Make checks and money orders payable in U.S. funds to **'The Tiffany Club'**. Send this form completed and your check or money order to: **P.O. Box 19, Wayland, MA 01778**

INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION FOR GENDER EDUCATION MEMBERSHIP FORM
TV-TS TAPESTRY SUBSCRIPTION FORM

International Foundation for Gender Education, TV-TS Tapestry Journal
P.O. Box 19, Wayland, MA 01778 (617) 358-2305

(This subscription/membership form is for the International Foundation for Gender Eduction and the TV-TS Tapestry Journal.

IFGE is a non-profit organization dedicated to serving the TV-TS Community, those persons affected by, and those serving that Community. Its services include, but are not limited to: A network of Clubs and Services, information distribution, publishing the TV-TS Tapestry, and sponsoring international conventions.

The Tapestry, published by IFGE, is intended to be a source of up-to-date information, of support, and a communications medium and unifying factor for the Cross-dressing/Transsexual Community, those persons affected by, and those serving that Community.

All information on this form is strictly confidential, and no names or addresses are given to others. Any information you give is helpful, but not required.)

Date: _____ NAME/ADDRESS: _____

TELEPHONE: _____(Special mailing and phoning instructions [how to mail, when to call, etc.])

_____

PLEASE CHECK:

_____ LIBRARY SUBSCRIPTION $20.00 ($30.00 1st class postage)

_____ REGULAR SUBSCRIPTION (USA) $40.00 ($50.00 1st class postage)

_____ REGULAR SUBSCRIPTION CANADA, OVERSEAS (SURFACE) $50.00

_____ OVERSEAS AIR MAIL $60.00

_____ IFGE SUPPORTING MEMBER $100.00 ($110.00 1st class postage)

REBATES:

The **IFGE** supports all legitimate non-profit TV/TS organizations and services. $10.00 from each **Regular Subscription or IFGE Supporting Membership** will be sent to the organization or service of the subscriber's choice to help them offset the extra cost of their efforts to help others. **Please name the non-profit TV-TS organization or service you wish to receive the $10.00 (If no preference, the $10.00 rebate will be placed in the IFGE Outreach and Education Fund):** _____

LIBRARY SUBSCRIPTION: $20.00 for four consecutive issues ($30.00 1st Class Postage and foreign). This is a special subscription rate for public and school libraries.

REGULAR SUBSCRIPTION: $40.00 for four consecutive issues ($50.00 1st Class Postage, Canada and overseas). Includes IFGE membership, a subscription to the TV-TS Tapestry, a free personal listing in the Tapestry, and free mail forwarding. ($10.00 will be rebated to the non-profit TV-TS organization of the Subscriber's choice.)

IFGE SUPPORTING MEMBER: $100.00 per year ($110.00 1st Class Postage, foreign). For persons who wish to be more active or supportive of IFGE's programs and services. Half of the membership fee will be used for publications, and the remainder will be placed in IFGE's outreach and education fund. A supporting Member includes a Subscription, and discounts for selected IFGE sponsored events. (As a courtesy to IFGE Supporting Members who wish to make use of Tiffany's facilities, which also house IFGE's headquarters, Tiffany extends Tiffany Special Membership privileges free of charge.)

Make checks and money orders payable in U.S. Funds to**'IFGE', or 'the Tapestry'**.Send this form completed and your check or money order to:**P.O. Box 19, Wayland MA. 01778.**

TV-TS TAPESTRY PERSONAL LISTING

1.) Only **IFGE** Subscribers and Supporting members may advertise.

2.) Your personal listing will be in the **'The Tapestry'**and will continue to be published for the duration of your membership. You may withdraw or change your listing at any time.

3.) No sexually oriented wording or photos will be accepted.

4.) Unless otherwise stated, legal names and street addresses will not be placed in the Tapestry. If you want mail forwarded, write **"c/o Tapestry"** on bottom line.

Adopted name:_____ Personal description:_____

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Interests:_____

_____ Comments:_____

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_____

THE TRINITY OF BEING:
OF BEING MASCULINE
OF BEING FEMININE,
OF BEING ONE
WITH YOURSELF AND NATURE!

TAPESTRY
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Wayland, MA 01778
(617) 358-2305